

Arthur Miall
15 Bowyer St. E.C.

THE
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT, AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXV.—NEW SERIES, No. 1013.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1865.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED... 5d.
STAMPED... 6d.

**SEVENTH TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE
OF THE
SOCIETY FOR THE LIBERATION OF RELIGION
FROM
STATE PATRONAGE AND CONTROL.**

The CONFERENCE will be held on TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, the 2nd and 3rd of May, at FREEMASON'S HALL, LONDON. It will be composed of Delegates appointed by—(1), Local Committees of the Society, or, in the absence of such Committees, by the Subscribers in any place (except the metropolis); (2), by Meetings publicly called; (3), by Public Bodies; and (4), by the Signatures of not fewer than Twenty-five Persons in any place or district.

It is not necessary that either the Delegates to the Conference, or the parties appointing them, shall have been previously connected with the Society; the only qualification required being an implied concurrence in the Society's objects, and in the propriety of organised effort to obtain for them Legislative sanction.

Forms for the Appointment of Delegates, and other information, may be had of the undersigned,
J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.
2, Serjeant's-inn, Fleet-street, London.

SURREY MISSION.

The ANNUAL MEETING will be held in the LECTURE-ROOM of the METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE, on THURSDAY AFTERNOON, April 6th, 1865.

JOHN CHURCHILL, Esq., J.P., will take the Chair at Three o'clock.

A Public Tea-Meeting at the close of the service.

The ANNUAL SERMON will be preached in the EVENING at Seven o'clock, by the Rev. C. H. SPURGEON, at the METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE.

APPRENTICESHIP SOCIETY.

At the HALF-YEARLY GENERAL ELECTION, held at the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY, PINSBURY CIRCUS, on TUESDAY, March 28th, 1865, the following were the successful candidates:—

Rees, Josephus Chap-	man	2,050	Taylor, James	962
Teall, Mary Jane ..	1,994	Wigg, Samuel W. ..	941	
Tyndale, Ed. Langley	1,532	Davies, David J. ..	908	
Mace, Daniel Edward ..	1,365	Evans, Harriett Sarah	603	
Tann, James	1,067	Gibbs, Albert H. ..	578	
Grant, Cordelia	1,021	Bell, Frederick Williams	558	

GEORGE SMITH, D.D., Chairman.
I. VALE MUMFERY, } Hon. Secretaries.
W. WELL KILPIN, }

"WIDOWS' FUND," or SOCIETY for RELIEF of the NECESSITIOUS WIDOWS and CHILDREN of PROTESTANT DISSIDENT MINISTERS (Independent, Presbyterian, and Baptist), formed in 1733.

The ANNUAL MEETING of MEMBERS for Presenting the Accounts, Voting the Grants, and Electing the Managers and Officials for the year ensuing, will be held at the GUILDHALL COFFEE-HOUSE, KING-STREET, CHEAPSIDE, on TUESDAY, 4th April, 1865, at One o'clock precisely.

WILLIAM EDWARDS, Treasurer.
CHARLES THEODORE JONES, Secretary.

TO WIDOWS of BAPTIST MINISTERS and MISSIONARIES.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION of PROFITS arising from the SALE of PSALMS and HYMNS, will take place in APRIL.

All applicants are desired to apply in writing on or before the 10th of April to the Honorary Secretary, Mr. J. E. Tresidder, 1, Chatham-place, Walworth-road, London.

HOSPITAL for SICK CHILDREN, 49, GREAT ORMOND-STREET.

Patron—Her Majesty the QUEEN.

This Institution is still the only Hospital in the metropolis specially set apart for the Reception of Sick Children. It is not endowed, but wholly dependent on voluntary support. The Committee very earnestly solicit CONTRIBUTIONS.

Bankers—Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co.; Messrs. Hoare; and Messrs. Herries.
P. H. DICKINSON, Chairman.
February, 1865.

HOSPITAL for DISEASES of the SKIN, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS.

The Committee earnestly seek the Sympathy of the Christian Public for the many Sufferers attending this Hospital. Nearly 1,000 attend weekly; 127,123 have received the benefits of the Charity since its establishment in 1841. The expenses are necessarily very heavy.

DONATIONS or SUBSCRIPTIONS will be most thankfully received. Bankers—Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., Lombard-street.

GEORGE BURT, F.R.C.S., Hon. Secretary.
ALFRED S. RICHARDS, Secretary.

NEW ZEALAND—HOW TO GET THERE.

The ALBERTLAND ASSOCIATION having arranged for a large party to sail in the magnificent Clipper KING OF ITALY, A 1, 2,700 tons burthen, on the 24th of May next, early application should be made to Samuel Brame, Manager, 3, St. Mary Axe, London, E.C.; or by letter to 73, Edmund-street, Birmingham.

THE Rev. RICHARD PERKINS, PEACH-FIELD, GREAT MALVERN, RECEIVES A LIMITED NUMBER of GENTLEMEN'S SONS to BOARD and EDUCATE. Terms, &c., on application.

TETTENHALL PROPRIETARY SCHOOL.

MIDLAND COUNTIES PROPRIETARY SCHOOL COMPANY (LIMITED).

HEAD MASTER: Rev. ROBERT HALLEY, M.A.

This School furnishes, on moderate terms, a sound and liberal Education, both Classical and Commercial, with a religious training in harmony with the principles held by Evangelical Nonconformists.

The NEXT TERM will COMMENCE on the 5th April. Applications for admission should be addressed to the Head Master, who will supply any information that may be required.

TERMS:

For Pupils entering under 11 years of age, 40 guineas.
For Pupils entering above 11 years of age, 50 guineas.

Tettenhall is well known as a most healthy and picturesque village, quite out of the mining district, and within three miles of the railway-stations at Wolverhampton.

CLERICAL—A GENTLEMAN of EDUCATION, who for many years has devoted a considerable portion of his time to PREACHING the GOSPEL and to pastoral duties, requires a PERMANENT ENGAGEMENT. A small remuneration would be accepted. The highest references, lay and clerical.

Address, W. O., at Mr. Gilbert's, Bookseller, 18 and 19, Gracechurch-street, London, E.C.

WANTED, by the LIFE INVESTMENT, MORTGAGE and ASSURANCE COMPANY (Limited), DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS of AGENTS for several localities in England and Scotland. Middle-aged men preferred.

Apply, Head Office, 8, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars.
EDWIN YELLAND, Manager.

GOVERNESS WANTED, in a FARM-HOUSE, to teach English, French, and Music. Must be of decided principles, middle age, and willing to take some superintendence of domestic matters.

Address, stating age, references, and salary, to X., Post office, Chelmsford.

TO DISSIDENTING MINISTERS.—In a superior MIDDLE-CLASS SCHOOL in London, a MINISTER'S DAUGHTER can shortly be received at HALF the REGULAR TERMS, but to enjoy ALL the privileges of the other pupils.

For particulars, address Miss Brake, Belgrave Collegiate School, Upper Belgrave-place, Pimlico, S.W.

RESIDENCE with PARTIAL BOARD.—A GENTLEMAN occupying his own house, and whose family is small, wishes to meet with a middle-aged GENTLEMAN of quiet habits to RESIDE with the FAMILY. Situation near Stoke Newington green.

Particulars will be furnished in reply to letter addressed to R. S., Mr. Newman, Printer, Wilegate-street, Bishopsgate.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.

WANTED, a respectable, well-educated YOUTH, not less than Fifteen years of age, as APPRENTICE to the GROCERY and DRAPERY BUSINESS, where good middle and first-class trades are done.

For particulars, apply to Mr. W. H. Aldred, Halesworth.

TO DRAPERS.—WANTED, a SITUATION for a YOUNG LADY, age Twenty, would give twelve months. Not been out before.

Address (letter only), Mr. Stephens, 1, Castle-terrace, Notting-hill, London, W.

MILL-HILL GRAMMAR-SCHOOL.

COMMITTEE MEETING, MARCH 21, 1865.

JOHN COOK, Esq., in the Chair.

RESOLVED.—"That this committee, on their first meeting after the death of Thomas Priestley, Esq., for many years the Head Master of this school, hereby place on record the cordial expression of their unqualified esteem for his mental, moral, and official excellences. They believe that his memory will be long and gratefully cherished by a large number of pupils who had the advantage of passing through the school under his wise and efficient superintendence; and they cherish the conviction that his example is now exercising a powerful influence for good on its present management."

G. SMITH, D.D., Hon. Sec.

1, PARAGON, BLACKHEATH, S.E.

THE Misses HADLEY beg to announce that they continue to RECEIVE FIFTEEN YOUNG LADIES for the purpose of EDUCATION.

They are assisted by Masters of long standing, and by a Resident Foreign Governess; but as they carry on the work of General Instruction themselves, each Pupil is under their own immediate and constant superintendence.

While attending to the Moral and Intellectual Culture of those committed to their care, the Misses Hadley endeavour at the same time to secure, by all possible means, the Health and Comfort of their Young Friends, and their efforts in these respects are greatly facilitated by the healthiness of Blackheath and the commodiousness of their Residence.

Reference is kindly permitted to W. Smith, Esq., LL.D., Avenue-road, Regent's-park; Rev. J. Beasley, Blackheath; Rev. R. H. Marten, B.A., Lee, Kent; Rev. J. C. Galloway, A.M., Kilburn; Rev. W. Cuthbertson, B.A., Bishop's Stortford; Rev. W. H. Dyer, Bath.

BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE

Rev. R. C. JESSOP, B.A., Head Master.

Terms, &c., on application.

**WHEELER and WILSON'S
UNRIVALLED PRIZE MEDAL
LOCK-STITCH SEWING-MACHINES**

With every recent improvement and addition for STITCHING, BINDING, CORDING, HEMMING, BRAIDING, TUCKING, &c.

This elegant Machine ranks highest in estimation on account of the elasticity, permanence, beauty, and general desirability of the work when done, and also its range of application to every description of household and manufacturing work. It makes a stitch the same on both sides the fabric, firm, durable, and which will not rip or ravel.

Society for Supplying Home Teachers and Books in Moon's Type, to enable the Blind to Read the Scriptures.

President—The Right Honourable the Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G.

500, New Oxford-street, London, W.C.
March 15th, 1865.

Messrs. Wheeler and Wilson.

Gentlemen,—I have much pleasure in informing you of the success which has followed the efforts made for teaching some of our Blind female readers the use of your Sewing Machine.

Their progress in stitching, tucking, and quilting after a few lessons has been quite remarkable, eliciting marked approbation from those who have witnessed it. I trust that the use of your Machine will be accepted, not only for the benefit of the poorer class of blind persons, but for the amusement of those more advantageously circumstanced.

Accept my earnest thanks for all the assistance we have received from you in this early stage of our efforts, and for your liberal donation.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient Servant,
(Signed) EDWARD MOORE.

Instruction gratis to every purchaser. Illustrated prospectus gratis and post-free.

OFFICES AND SALE ROOMS,
139, REGENT-STREET, LONDON, W.

SEWING MACHINES.

GROVER and BAKER'S

CELEBRATED ELASTIC OR DOUBLE LOCK-STITCH SEWING MACHINES,

WITH ALL THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS.

ARE THE BEST AND SIMPLEST EVER OFFERED,

AND ARE WARRANTED TO DO

BETTER, STRONGER, AND HANDSOMER WORK, WITH LESS TROUBLE, THAN ANY OTHER.

For Family Use, or Dress and Mantle Making, they are positively unrivalled, doing plain and ornamental work with equal facility. They stitch, hem, fell, tuck, gather, quill, cord, braid, and embroider, are very easily managed, and not liable to derangement. Upwards of 100,000 now in use in all parts of the world.

Every Machine guaranteed. Instruction gratis. Illustrated prospectus and samples of work gratis and post free.

GROVER and BAKER,

SEWING MACHINE COMPANY,

150, REGENT-STREET, LONDON, W.

59, BOLD-STREET, LIVERPOOL.

These Machines, and the work done upon them, have never failed to receive the first premium over all competitors, wherever exhibited.

STATIONERY, PRINTING, ACCOUNT

BOOKS, and every requisite for the Counting house. Qualities and prices will compare advantageously with any house in the trade. The Forms and Account Books required under "THE COMPANIES' ACT, 1862," kept in stock. Share Certificates Engraved and Printed. Official Seals Designed and Executed.—ASH and FLINT, 49, Fleet-street, City, E.C., and opposite the Railway Stations, London-bridge, S.E.

COMMERCIAL SCHOOL, CRANFORD

HALL, near HOUNSLOW, MIDDLESEX.

PRINCIPAL:—Mr. VERNEY.

This school is adapted to the requirements of the Sons of Respectable Tradesmen and others. The Premises are First-class, spacious, elevated, and healthy; the rooms are numerous and lofty; there is an excellent well-ventilated school-room and class-rooms; a large playground, lawn, and gardens; with every other convenience.

The education is sound, practical, and commercial; with or without French, Piano, Surveying, &c.

Mr. VERNEY has for upwards of Twenty Years been actively engaged in the pleasing and responsible work of training the young, and is favoured with numerous references.

TERMS PER QUARTER:

For Pupils over Twelve years of age, Seven Guineas.
For Pupils under Twelve years of age, Six Guineas.

(Terms made inclusive, when preferred.)

Cranford Hall School is on the Bath-road, twelve miles from Hyde-park Corner, and near the Hounslow, Feltham, Southall, and West Drayton Stations, at either of which Mr. Verney's conveyance meets Parents and Pupils.

An APPRENTICE WANTED on Easy Terms.

CLASSICAL and COMMERCIAL SCHOOL,

VALE HOUSE, WANTAGE, BERKS.

Conducted by Mr. D. STROUD, late First English Master at Britannia House, Collegiate School, Guines, France.

TERMS, from TWENTY-SIX to THIRTY GUINEAS.



EDUCATIONAL HOME for YOUNG LADIES—MALVERN.

The Principal of a very select establishment, delightfully situated in a most pleasant and healthy part of Worcestershire, desires to receive TWO or THREE YOUNG LADIES on very moderate terms. The pupils receive a very superior education, combined with all the comforts of a home.

For prospectus and full information apply to the Superintendent, Clerical and Scholastic Agency Offices, 78, Borough-road, London, S.E.

BOARDING SCHOOL for TRADESMEN'S SONS, ROCHFORD, ESSEX.

Principal—Mr. GEORGE FOSTER.
This school is specially worthy the notice of those, who, for a moderate payment, are anxious to secure a useful education for their sons. Reference to the Author of "Pleasant Pages." Circulars as above, or of Messrs. Mead and Powell, 73, Cheapside.

An Upholsterer's and a Draper's Son can be received on reciprocal terms.

STOKE HALL SCHOOL, IPSWICH.

Mr. JOHN D. BUCK, B.A., Principal.
Situation elevated and healthy, near the Railway Station. Education. Commercial and Classical, adapted to the Middle-Class Examinations.
A Preparatory Department for Younger Pupils.
Prospectuses forwarded on application.
The next Quarterly Term commences on the 6th of April.

SCHOLASTIC and PROFESSIONAL OFFICES.

78, BOROUGH-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
The nobility, clergy, gentry, heads of families, and principals of schools, are respectfully informed that they can always be provided, free of charge, and at a few hours' notice, with Tutors, Secretaries, Governesses, Companions, and Lady Housekeepers. Undeniable references required before placing names upon the register, so that employers may accept an introduction from these offices as a guarantee of the respectability and good faith of the applicant. Advertisements and schools disposed of. Pupils introduced.

Mr. E. HARRIS, Superintendent.
Agent for the Windsor School Desks, to transform into Backed Seats and Tables. Specimen on view.

LONDON.—SHIRLEY'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL.

37, QUEEN'S-SQUARE, BLOOMSBURY, W.C.
BEDS. from 1s. 6d.; PLAIN BREAKFAST or TEA, 1s.
The above house is well and centrally situated. There is a spacious Coffee-room overlooking the Square; it is within five minutes' walk of Holborn, and near the Inns of Court, British Museum, St. Paul's, &c.; and admirably suited for Parties, either on pleasure or business.

APPEAL on BEHALF of the COLOURED PEOPLE who were SLAVES in the UNITED STATES of AMERICA.

THE COMMITTEE of the FREEDMEN'S AID SOCIETY, LONDON.—Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, Bart., President, and Samuel Gurney, Esq., M.P., Treasurer; including in its number members of the Society of Friends, clergymen and members of the Established Church, ministers and members of Nonconformist Churches—appeals to all classes of society for prompt co-operation. It earnestly entreats the assistance of every one who seeks to give such aid, physical and educational, and to apply such moral and religious culture as shall, under the Divine blessing, enable the once down-trodden and degraded slave to act with self-reliance, and afford evidence of his capacity for freedom and equality with all other men in the eye of law.

The numbers already delivered from slavery in the United States are reckoned about two millions. Hundreds of thousands of these are necessarily placed in circumstances of want and suffering, though entirely accessible to the benevolence of all willing to render assistance. Thousands have sunk into an untimely grave from the hardships incident to their escape from bondage, their desertion by masters for whom they had long toiled, and the calamities of a desperate war. Many linger under diseases and weakness, the result of tedious journeys and protracted want and exposure. Others are sinking into helpless sickness from want of clothing and habitations in the severity of winter. Generally, they evince a willingness and aptitude for work when supplied with tools for husbandry and other occupations, and furniture for their humble dwellings. They even need vessels in which to cook their food.

Multitudes are already, as freemen, rearing cotton and other products of the soil, so as to provide for their families and return a profit for the capital invested; and tens of thousands are eagerly receiving instructions in letters, in the Scriptures, and the principles of religion, under the self-denying labours of devoted benefactors, encouraged and facilitated by the general Government. A national response from England to American philanthropy, in such a crisis of history, would be an appropriate recognition of the seasonable benevolence exerted by citizens of the Union, when they promptly hastened to bring such bountiful help in the time of Irish famine and Lancashire distress. Surely Englishmen will not suffer themselves to be excelled in a generous charity by other nations.

Contributions in money and clothing, amounting to twenty-five thousand pounds, have been transmitted from Great Britain and Ireland to the several Freedmen's Aid Societies in America since January, 1863. More recently, since July, 1864, renewed efforts have been increasingly successful. Among the later contributors may be enumerated—Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, Bart., the Dowager Ladies Buxton, Charles Buxton, Esq., M.P., Samuel Gurney, Esq., M.P., Barclay Gurney, Esq., George W. Alexander, Esq., Mrs. D. Alexander (Ipswich), S. Christy, Esq., J. Backhouse, Esq., John Pease, Esq., Henry Pease, Esq., W. E. Forster, Esq., M.P., Sir S. Morton Peto, Bart., M.P., John Bright, Esq., M.P., the Hon. Leveson Gower, M.P., the Hon. Charles Howard, M.P., Mrs. Lucy Fowler, R. Alsop, Esq., John Richardson, Esq., George Sturge, Esq., Jonathan Phipps, Esq., Samuel Bewley, Esq., J. J. Lister, Esq., Miss Mouncey; several small companies of working men, and donors of half-a-crown and a shilling. A distinct list will be hereafter reported.

Further contributions are most earnestly solicited, and will be thankfully received for the Treasurer by William Allen, Esq., Winchmore-hill, N., London; James William Massie, D.D., LL.D., Acting Secretary, 30, Lonsdale-square, N.; or by the Bankers, Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, Trittton, and Co., Lombard-street.

Friends' Institute, Committee Room, 12, Bishopsgate-street, March 15th, 1865.

DEBENTURES at 5, 5½, and 6 PER CENT.

CRYLON COMPANY, LIMITED.
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, £500,000.

DIRECTORS.
Major-General Henry Pelham, Esq., Chairman.
Duncan James Kay, Esq.
Burn.
Harry George Gordon, Esq.
Stephen P. Kennard, Esq.
George Ireland, Esq.
Patrick F. Robertson, Esq.
Robert Smith, Esq.

MANAGER—C. J. Braine, Esq.

The Directors are prepared to issue Debentures for one three, and five years, at 5, 5½, and 6 per cent. respectively. They are also prepared to Invest Money on Mortgage in Ceylon and Mauritius, either with or without the guarantee of the Company, as may be arranged.

Applications for particulars to be made at the Offices of the Company, No. 12, Leadenhall-street, London.—By order, JOHN ANDERSON, Secretary.

COLMAN'S GENUINE MUSTARD.

TRADE MARK.

On each



THE BULL'S HEAD,

Package.

At the Great Exhibition, 1862,

OBTAINED THE

ONLY PRIZE MEDAL

For "Purity and Excellence of Quality."

Sold by all Grocers, Druggists, &c., throughout the United Kingdom.

J. and J. COLMAN, 26, Cannon-street, London, E.C.**THOMAS COOPER'S ENGAGEMENTS for PART of the YEAR 1865.**

APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.	JULY.	AUGUST.	SEPTEMBER.
S 1 } S 2 } M 3 } T 4 } W 5 } Th 6 } F 7 } S 8 } S 9 } M 10 } T 11 } W 12 }	M 1 } WHITSTABLE T 2 } (Kent) W 3 } HERNE BAY Th 4 } (Kent) F 5 } S 6 } M 7 } RAMSGATE T 8 } W 9 } Th 10 } F 11 } S 12 } S 13 } M 14 } T 15 } W 16 } Th 17 } F 18 } S 19 } S 20 } M 21 } T 22 } W 23 } Th 24 } F 25 } S 26 } S 27 } M 28 } T 29 } W 30 } Th 31 }	Th 1 } RYE F 2 } (Sussex) S 3 } M 4 } T 5 } W 6 } Th 7 } F 8 } S 9 } M 10 } T 11 } W 12 } Th 13 } F 14 } S 15 } M 16 } T 17 } W 18 } Th 19 } F 20 } S 21 } S 22 } M 23 } T 24 } W 25 } Th 26 } F 27 } S 28 } S 29 } M 30 } T 31 }	S 1 } S 2 } M 3 } T 4 } W 5 } Th 6 } F 7 } S 8 } S 9 } M 10 } T 11 } W 12 } Th 13 } F 14 } S 15 } M 16 } T 17 } W 18 } Th 19 } F 20 } S 21 } S 22 } M 23 } T 24 } W 25 } Th 26 } F 27 } S 28 } S 29 } M 30 } T 31 }	T 1 } CHRIST- W 2 } CHURCH Th 3 } (Hants) F 4 } S 5 } M 6 } T 7 } W 8 } Th 9 } F 10 } S 11 } M 12 } T 13 } W 14 } Th 15 } F 16 } S 17 } M 18 } T 19 } W 20 } Th 21 } F 22 } S 23 } S 24 } M 25 } T 26 } W 27 } Th 28 } F 29 } S 30 } S 31 }	F 1 } CREWKERNE S 2 } (Somerset) M 3 } T 4 } W 5 } Th 6 } F 7 } S 8 } S 9 } M 10 } T 11 } W 12 } Th 13 } F 14 } S 15 } M 16 } T 17 } W 18 } Th 19 } F 20 } S 21 } S 22 } M 23 } T 24 } W 25 } Th 26 } F 27 } S 28 } S 29 } M 30 } T 31 }

* Letters to be addressed, "Thomas Cooper, Lecturer on Christianity," at the town to which I am appointed, as "BRIGHTON"; "Sandwich, Kent"; "Ryde, Isle of Wight"; "DORCHESTER," &c.
N.B.—Correspondents are especially requested not to put "Post-office" on their letters.

THE GENERAL PROVIDENT ASSURANCE COMPANY (Limited).

CHIEF OFFICES—14, Garrick-street, Covent-garden, London.
CAPITAL—HALF-A-MILLION.

DIRECTORS.
THOMAS HATTERSLEY, Esq., Chairman.
JOSEPH CAUDWELL, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.
Capt. G. Bayly, R.N. | W. Paul Clift, Esq.
F. Brodigan, Esq., J.P. | Joseph A. Horner, Esq.
Alfred Bryant, Esq. | Right Hon. Lord Teynham.

AUDITORS.
J. J. Andrew, Esq., F.R.S. | W. Wollen Smith, Esq.
Edward Schnadhorst, Esq.

MEDICAL ADVISER—Robert F. Power, Esq., M.D.
HOMOEOPATHIC REFEREE—Jacob Dixon, Esq., M.D.
SOLICITOR—Henry Earle, Esq., 29, Bedford-row, London.

BANKERS.
The London and Westminster Bank, Temple-bar.
The Estates Bank, 156, Strand, London; and 6, D'Olier-street, Dublin.

CONSULTING ACTUARY—W. S. B. Woolhouse, Esq., F.R.A.S.
GENERAL MANAGER—Hubert George Grist, Esq.
AGENCY SECRETARY—Herbert Thompson, Esq.

SECRETARY FOR IRELAND—Ed. Allworthy, Esq., Belfast.

PRINCIPAL FEATURES.

Paid-up Policies on Equitable Terms.

Deposit Policies in lieu of Fixed Sums paid down.

Special Temperance Section.

Special Homoeopathic Section.

Special Working Men's Section.

Advances in connection with Life Assurance.

Immediate and Deferred Annuities.

Educational and General Endowments.

The Board will be glad to entertain applications (addressed to the General Manager), for Agencies from Persons able to introduce business. Prospectuses sent per post for one stamp.

BANK OF NEW ZEALAND.

BANKERS TO THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT OF NEW ZEALAND, THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS OF AUCKLAND, CANTERBURY, OTAGO, &c., &c.

CAPITAL, £500,000. RESERVE FUND, £100,000.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES IN NEW ZEALAND.

Auckland Napier Wanganui Queenstown
Russell Nelson Wellington Shotover
Blenheim New Plymouth Dunstan Tokomaitiro
Christchurch Ngaraunahia Dunstan Creek Waikouaiti
Dunedin Oamaru Hamilton Waitahuna
Invercargill Pictou Hyde Wakatipu
Kaipoi Riverton Manuhirikia Wetherstone
Lyttelton Timaru Mount Ida

This Bank GRANTS DRAFTS on any of the above-named places, and transacts every description of Banking business connected with New Zealand, on the most favourable terms.

The London Office RECEIVES DEPOSITS at interest for fixed periods, on terms which may be learned on application.

F. LARKWORTHY,
Managing Director.

No. 50, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY,

LIMITED. (Fire and Marine.) Capital, One Million.

Premiums charged estimated by the individual risk.

The utmost liberality in every transaction.

OFFICES.
8, Finch-lane, and 7, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall.

MORELL THEOBALD,
Manager, Fire Department.

* Agents wanted where none appointed.

LADY-DAY FIRE RENEWALS. GENERAL ASSURANCE COMPANY,

62, KING WILLIAM-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

ESTABLISHED 1837.

CAPITAL, ONE MILLION.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The LADY-DAY FIRE RENEWAL RECEIPTS are now ready, and may be had on application at the Head Office of the Company, or of any of its Agents throughout the country.

STOCK-IN-TRADE, Machinery, Fixtures, Implements, and Utensils in Trade, Merchandise, &c., charged only the Reduced Duty of 1s. 6d. per cent.

FURNITURE in first-class houses insured in one sum without classification at 2s. per cent.

TRANSFERS from other OFFICES effected without expense to the Assured, and at the same rates.

SETTLEMENTS for LOSSES prompt and liberal.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

The new LIFE BUSINESS of the last Quinquennial Period, which closed 31st December, 1862, was 145 per cent. more than that of the preceding similar term; while the Fire Premiums were 185 per cent. more.

A BONUS of 22 per cent., equal to a Reversionary Bonus of from 30 to 60 per cent., according to the age of the Assured, was declared in 1863.

THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.

MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE

COMPANY.—ESTABLISHED 1824.

98, KING-STREET, MANCHESTER.

96, Cheapside, London.

Capital: One Million Sterling.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN MANCHESTER:

EDMUND BUCKLEY, Esq., Chairman.

DAVID HARRISON, Esq., Deputy Chairman.

John Barratt, Esq. | John Hough, Esq.

Edmund Buckley, jun., Esq. | Bernhard Liebert, Esq.

John Chapman, Esq., M.P. | Alfred Milne, Esq.

Thos. Barham Foster, Esq. | Joseph Peel, Esq.

George Withington, Esq.

Insurances are granted by this Company on nearly every description of Property in Great Britain, at moderate rates.

Insurances may also be effected on Property in Foreign Countries, and in some of the Colonies, at current rates.

Mills, Factories, and other hazardous risks will be surveyed at the request of the owner.

Cotton Mills not at work, will be insured at 5s. per cent. per Annum.

Farming Stock insured Free from Duty, allowing the use of a Steam Threshing Machine.

Applications for Agencies should be addressed to JAMES B. NORTHCOTT, Secretary to the Company.

W. F. THOMAS AND CO.'S

PATENT SEWING MACHINES.

PRIZE MEDAL.

66, Newgate-street; and Regent-street, Oxford-street, London.

SEWING MACHINES of the very First

Class of Excellence and Workmanship, in each of the various descriptions of stitch, for cloth, linen, leather embroidery, and glove-sewing, including Prize Medal Machines. The quality of these Machines can always be depended on. For sale under direct supply, retail, wholesale, and for exportation.

The American and English Sewing Machine Company, 457, New Oxford-street, London, W.C.

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT, AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXV.—NEW SERIES, No. 1013.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1865.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 5d.
STAMPED..... 6d.

CONTENTS.

ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS:	The Free Churches of London and Christian Work	247
The Rev. F. D. Maurice's Letter	Surrey Chapel and its Work	248
Eccliaistical Notes	London Congregational Chapel-building Society	248
The Judgment in the Colenso Case	Want of Zeal in Home Missionary Work	248
Anti-Easter-dues Meeting at Batley	Postscript	248
The Rev. R. Vaughan, D.D., and the Students of Airedale College	LEADING ARTICLES:	
Abolition of Tests at Oxford	Summary	250
Church Attendance on Sunday	Union Chargeability Bill	250
RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE:	The Disintegration of the South	251
The Free Churches of London and Christian Work	Notes of the Session	251
CORRESPONDENCE:	Vagrants	252
The Liberation Society	Parliamentary Proceedings	253
The Lock-out in the Iron Trade	Foreign and Colonial	255
	Election Intelligence	256
	Markets	260
	Advertisements	260

Eccliaistical Affairs.

THE REV. F. D. MAURICE'S LETTER.

OUR readers will find in another column a letter from the Rev. F. D. Maurice in reply to some animadversions we ventured to make last week upon what we took to be an attack upon the Liberation Society made by him through the columns of the *Spectator* of the foregoing Saturday. That reply we earnestly commend to the study of our readers.

For one paragraph in our own article we unfeignedly express regret. We spoke of the difficulty we found in catching Mr. Maurice's precise meaning in a tone and in terms more likely to wound than to elicit further explanation. We unhesitatingly ask leave to delete that paragraph, and we tender to our rev. correspondent an apology for any pain it may have caused him. We are too sincerely anxious for an amicable and dispassionate comparison of differing opinions with a view to truth, not to be sorry to have given occasion for an exchange of banter little likely to further the end which, no doubt, he, not less than we, is chiefly intent upon reaching. The only extenuation we can plead in mitigation of any amount of censure he may think due to us, is the disagreeable surprise into which we were betrayed by the rather contemptuous language held towards the Liberation Society by one whom we had desired to regard, and, spite of wide differences, did regard, with sincerest respect.

Having now done our best to clear the controversy of all personalities, we address ourselves to the question at issue. That our readers may the more easily go along with us, we think it will be well that we should restate the case. Mr. Maurice, in commenting upon a passage in the Bishop of Capetown's charge to his clergy, wrote of the Liberation Society certain things which appeared to us to suggest, to incautious readers particularly, that it was open to animadversion on two accounts—first, that there was between it and the South African bishop, an "ill-compacted and unholy alliance"—and secondly, that the Liberation Society claims a "right to look down upon the Nation as a merely secular and earthly thing," or, in stronger terms, "a godless society." Against these charges we entered our protest. In reference to the first of them, Mr. Maurice, in his letter to us, says, "I did not dream of a compact between the Bishop and the Society; I did think they were working towards a common end." We cheerfully accept the explanation, but we submit to our correspondent that the words he used were calculated, of course beside his intention, to convey to readers wholly ignorant of the facts, that there existed a compact of some sort between the two. It was because we thought that this interpretation would be put upon his words by many who know little of the Society's proceedings, but who are ready enough

to believe any evil of it, that we thought it needful to draw forth the disclaimer which we were confident Mr. Maurice's sense of fairness would not permit him to withhold. Here, then, that matter may be suffered to drop.

In vindication of the Society against the second count in the indictment, we endeavoured to show the position assumed by the Society to be such as would preclude its being justly convicted of looking down upon either the Nation itself, or the State which for some purposes represents it, as "a godless society," or as excluding "the living Lord" from "His dominion." The pith of our exposition of the views promulgated by the Liberation Society will be found in the two sentences which we here place in juxtaposition. "The Society undoubtedly holds that the State, acting by means of coercive law, is not the appointed nor [the appropriate organisation for providing the temporalities, and ordering the affairs, of that spiritual kingdom which Christ has founded, of which He is sole Lord, and concerning which He said it is "not of this world." Here is laid down what, in the judgment of the Society, the State ought not to do. The other passage to which we have alluded, states with equal explicitness what it ought to do. "The State, through all its gradations of officers, in all its legislative and executive duties, is bound to recognise the lordship of Christ—to be influenced by motives derived from Him, to be guided by principles laid down by Him, to acknowledge responsibility to Him, and to aim in all its proceedings at embodying His will." This was our answer to the charge brought against the Liberation Society, of claiming the "right to look down upon the Nation as a merely secular and earthly thing," and as "a godless society."

Was that statement, if true, a sufficient refutation of the charge—and if not, in what respects does it fall short? Mr. Maurice must remember that he placed the Society on the defensive. We stood forth on its behalf, and gave as clear an account as we were able of its views. We naturally turn to the letter of our correspondent to ascertain whether he still presses the original accusation, and on what grounds. Mr. Maurice begins by saying, in what we take to be a tone of irony, "I am rejoiced to learn that the Liberation Society recognises the sacredness and godliness of a nation as strongly as any old Puritan or Covenanter could recognise it"—to which we reply that if he draws his conclusion from any statement of ours, we should prefer to adhere to the form in which we have put it—but if, as we imagine, he means to imply that our statement falls far short of expressing the views held by Puritans and Covenanters, our remark is, that it may do so, and yet it may be a sufficient answer to the charge to which it professed to be an answer. Is it so, or is it not? It did not assume to identify the Liberation Society's views with those of the Puritans and Covenanters, but it did assume to dispose of the imputation of looking down upon the nation as a merely secular, earthly, and godless thing. Are we to understand that its not having done the one brings in against it a verdict of guilty in respect of the other? Mr. Maurice proceeds, "I was entirely mistaken, it seems, in supposing that it regards religious denominations as having a more sacred or more godly character than the whole body over which Queen Victoria reigns"—to which our reply is *ceteris paribus* as before. We met one accusation—we did not profess to meet that implied in the sentence before us. Again we ask, was our defence valid as far as it went?

In reference then, to the original indictment, we have nothing to retract from, nothing to add to, the statement we made by way of clearing the Society's reputation. But we find in the letter before us two other charges advanced: at least by implication. The first is that of regarding religious denominations as having a more sacred or more godly character than "the whole body over which Queen Victoria reigns." We shall not clear the principles we are vindicating from

being considered defective and erroneous in Mr. Maurice's view—of that we are pretty confident—but we will state, as clearly as we can, what we hold them to imply, and how they came to have authority over our conscience; and, we think he may fairly assume that in this matter, the great bulk of the members of the Liberation Society concur with us.

What, then, is our view of the sacredness or godliness of the "denominations," as compared with the "whole body over which Queen Victoria reigns"? Let us first of all define our terms. We understand that to have a "sacred character" which has been set apart by God to do for Him some special service. We understand that to have a "godly character" which resembles God. We attach neither of these ideas to "denominations" as such. We attach both of them to the Church of Christ. We deem the Church of Christ "sacred," because He set it apart to make known His gracious will to the world, as He was set apart to make known the gracious will of the Father. We deem it to be "godly in character" in as far as it fears God, accepts the Christ, "lives and moves and has its being" in His Spirit. We agree with the article of the Church of England, that it is "a congregation of faithful men," of men who believe God's message of His Son, that "in Him is eternal life, and that he that hath the Son hath life, and he that hath not the Son hath not life." We hold of this nation, as of any other nation, and that it exists, as such, by the Providence of God, that by the ordination or permission of Divine Providence its bounds have been appointed, and have been and will be, by the same permission or ordination, altered from time to time by various causes. We hold that the nation, as such, is not what it is for mere chance purposes, but for ends which the wisdom and goodness of God intends to accomplish by it. In this sense, using the words loosely, we may attach to it the idea of sacredness—in the sense that it is ordered and governed by God's Providence, we may characterise it as godly; but we should do so by a very unusual use of the epithets. It belongs to God—it is under obligation of owing allegiance to His Son—it ought and might, in all its acts as a nation, commend His truth by putting God, the Divine, into them. But the Nation is not, in our view, the Church—the Covenant of grace was not made with the Nation, but with the Church—the Church, not the Nation, is "the pillar and ground of the truth." It is to the Church, as such, not to the Nation, as such, that Christ has committed the specific trust of representing His spiritual claims upon man's faith and hope and love.

As we do not identify the Church of Christ with the Nation, so neither do we with "religious denominations." We think the Church should be one, not necessarily in tenets, not in ecclesiastical discipline, not in theological forms of belief, much less in structural uniformity, but in heart, in communion, in recognition of Jesus Christ as the Divine Reconciler and Lord, and in true sanctity of character. We hope and pray that what ought to be will be. Denominationalism we take to be abnormal—the fruit of our imperfection, not of the godliness of our Christian character. It may be overruled for good. It may, through God's wonder-working wisdom and mercy, be made conducive to the distincter exhibition of particular aspects of truth which would otherwise fall out of sight. But, if a necessity, it is a necessity in which we do not glory—a necessity born of human weakness—a necessity, we fondly hope, which, as we all get nearer to the heart of Christ, and become more assimilated to His Spirit, will pass away and cease to be. And, for the most part, we cherish this hope, not as the Puritans and Covenanters did, who knew no toleration for diversities of religious thought and practice, and would have had the Sovereign coerce all his subjects into a profession of their creed—but as Christian men who perceive that union with their Lord may consist of a considerable variety of forms in which the same great

central truth of Revelation may be held, and of practice in which hearty obedience may be rendered unto Christ. Our expectation is that when Caesar ceases to meddle with the things of God, one great hindrance to the closer drawing together of all who love Christ will be removed out of the way—one prolific source of sectarianism will be dried up—one additional probability that the servants of their Lord, instead of turning their arms one against another, will combine and reorganise and turn them against sin and superstition and infidelity, in whatever forms they may lurk.

We come now to the second matter, concerning which Mr. Maurice implicitly impugns the principles or practice, or both, of the Liberation Society, that, namely, of seeking "to relieve ecclesiastics, of whatever school or denomination, from a restraint which, it seems to me," he says, "is favourable to the peace of the land and to the freedom of thought." We shall pursue the same line of defence in refutation of this, as of the foregoing charge, by stating with as much precision as we can what it is which the Society really desires to do. Before making that statement, however, we beg to give Mr. Maurice our assurance that the Liberation Society is not responsible, in the remotest degree, for the pamphlet to which he alludes in his postscript—neither for its authorship, its contents, its publication, nor its distribution. For ourselves, we have to confess with shame that, owing to an unusual press of engagements, which incapacitates us at times for overtaking all our duties, we had never set our eyes upon it until after we had read Mr. Maurice's letter, and that having since then given the preface to it a careful perusal, we think he has incorrectly described its scope, and that it will not bear the construction he has put upon it. We must do our correspondent the justice of admitting that the name of the publisher on the title-page may very naturally have led him to connect the pamphlet with the Liberation Society; but natural as was the inference he drew from it, it is, nevertheless, contrary to fact.

As it regards freedom of thought, of association, of utterance, of action in religious matters, the position of the Society is clear enough. It holds and inculcates the doctrine that the State should protect every man, not ecclesiastics only, in the fullest enjoyments of these rights; and where these are connected with the tenure or usufruct of property, that, in case of dispute, the State, through its law courts, should determine to whom the property belongs, and what are the conditions under which it must be applied. The law of the land, as expressed by the constituted tribunals, is the final and authoritative interpreter of the meaning and requirements of all contracts, trust-deeds, titles, &c., wherein or whereby the temporal and civil rights of subjects are affected—and when the Sovereign, acting through the Courts, has given protection to the rights thus acquired, and has enforced the conditions under which they have been obtained, the Sovereign has done all that religious freedom demands, and all that it will admit of so far as the force of law can justly apply.

As to the "little tyrannies" which "each denomination has the freedom to perform within its own sphere," we do not see how the authority of the State could be so wielded as to repress them. They spring out of narrowness of culture—they are lamented by all enlightened men—they resemble coarseness of manners, rudeness of behaviour, acts of mistaken judgment or of froward and petulant temper, in social life—they can only be overborne by the exhibition of Christian character—and, happily, though very annoying, very mortifying, and often, as Mr. Maurice says, "unholy," they are comparatively petty, because unsupported by the sword of the magistrate. Such frailties of human nature, we are afraid, would show themselves among Church parties, even after the State should have withdrawn its patronage and control of spiritual affairs. But that withdrawal would not "let loose" all Churchmen "to tear each other to pieces." The power to hurt each other would not be greater then than now—for law would do nothing to enforce opinion. There is a country not far off, in point of time, a country whose population equals ours, in which all religious denominations and parties are "let loose"—but we do not see them "tearing each other to pieces," in ecclesiastical or even theological quarrels. If the testimony of impartial witnesses is to be credited,—De Tocqueville, Morpeth, Lyell and others—there is no country in which difference of religious opinions tends so little to disturb political relations, or thrust a discordant note into social harmony. 'Tis the hand of Cæsar that raises that difference into the region of the fiercer passions. The Liberation Society would have it wholly withdrawn, save for the protection of the equal rights of all.

But there is another point of view from which the question may be regarded. Mr. Maurice

may value the intervention of the State to rescue Churchmen from the intolerance of Churchmen. But State intervention, grateful as it may be to him, inflicts intolerable injustice upon that half of the population which declines to take its religion from the Sovereign's hands. The "little tyrannies" we inflict upon one another sink into insignificance in comparison of the greater tyrannies inflicted upon us by State management of religion. The Liberation Society would give perfect freedom to the Bishop of Capetown, or Dr. Pusey, or Mr. Maurice, to propound their respective views, to enforce them by reasoning, to put them in practice so far as it could be done by voluntary agreement—but there are some things it would not do. It would not appropriate the property which belongs to all subjects in common to the maintenance of opinions which may chance to be those of the majority—it would not rifle the pockets of dissidents from a particular creed, to defray the expenses of worship for its professors—it would not shut out all but a favoured denomination from all the higher honours, offices and rewards of learning, within the gift of the national universities, nor would it hand over to its members the exclusive control of all public schools and nationally endowed grammar-schools—it would not deny to the ministers of every sect but one all official access to the graveyards which belong to, and are sustained by, all parishioners—it would not force an alien Church upon the people of Ireland—it would not give public money to the Roman Catholics at Maynooth, or to the Presbyterians in Ulster, nor would it worry the inhabitants of Edinburgh with an annuity-tax. These injustices, the relics of much worse, are injustices inflicted by law upon Dissenters in behalf of religion. Can Mr. Maurice be surprised that our affection for law in this sphere does not equal his?

We have done. We have set forth the views of the Liberation Society as its best possible defence. We regret that Mr. Maurice holds them to be utterly unsound. But, at least, we are anxious that he should be under no mistake as to what they really are.

ECCELESIASTICAL NOTES.

THERE are times in some great public controversies when almost the whole earth seems to be moved as by a breath from Heaven, and people in all nations suddenly come to think, feel, and act alike. Is such a time coming to us? We almost think so. One by one leaders of various peoples whose writings and speeches are making the thought of their generation, are seeing and recognising one great truth—the accountability of the conscience to the Supreme Judge alone—the rightful freedom of all men in things that pertain to God. Italy is now drinking in this doctrine; Hungary has had it brought to her for years by one of the foremost of modern philosophical statesmen; the thinkers of Germany have long known the truth; and in France it has bold and numerous advocates. A pamphlet on "The Separation of the Church from the State," from the pen of M. Henri Martin—whose name all readers of French journals will know as that of one of the ablest of Liberal writers—has suggested to us this momentary glance. The friend who has forwarded it to us—a scholar who associates with the scholars of Paris—remarks, in sending it, that this—the Separation of the Church from the State—has now become the full cry of the French Liberals in answer to the Encyclical. M. Martin's pamphlet is addressed to Mgr. Dupanloup, and relates principally to the theses of the Encyclical. In it, however, he both immediately and expressly touches on the question, first of Church property, and secondly of the Separation—which is his solution of the religious difficulties of the age.

It is curious to notice, in reading these pages, how singularly identical lines of thought are taken by persons who live without the least communion with each other. Here we find M. Martin enlarging on the public origin and nature of Church property, and exposing the idea of a National Church having any of the legal qualities of a Corporation. And in his reply to *Le Monde*, we find how State Churchmen in France are saying just the very same thing as those much nearer home:—

"The *Monde* declares," says M. Martin, "that the resources of the Church would be insufficient or precarious if they were to depend upon the annual contributions of Catholics, and that the zeal of the faithful would not fill the void caused by the suppression of the budget. It avows less clearly a fear which ought to be to us a source of great hope, that believers would be less docile under the régime of liberty when the priest must make himself acceptable to them than when he is imposed upon them by public authority. They fear, much more than the insufficiency of material resources, the awakening of true spirituality and liberty of conscience in the bosom of Catholicism. They are terrified at the advent of that day when official

religions shall disappear, when each father of a family shall of his own choice, join any religious association, and dare to question himself concerning his religious belief. May the fear of our adversaries be our hope and their avowals our guide! Only by the separation of the Church from the State shall be developed in France that religious movement which modern society expects and demands.

The key of this thought is that State-Churchism has been and is the buttress of all sacerdotalism and priestly authority. M. Martin, in fact, in alluding to the first Church Establishments, viz., those of Pagan Greece and Rome, and to the continuation of the system by the Roman Constantine, almost starts with this idea. Their business is to enslave the soul. The only alternative they have ever offered, when they have had the power, is death, either by fire and faggot, the stake, the hangman, or the executioner. For, freedom of soul they have felt to be fatal to their system—as anomalous and unendurable as for a living man to abide in the world of the dead. This doctrine is getting familiar to French thought. M. de Pressensé has often expressed it, and it lately startled the religious world of France by its appearance in the vigorous and eloquent pages of "*Le Mandit*"—a novel which may do for Romanism and Jesuitism in France what "*Uncle Tom's Cabin*" did for slavery in America. Well, let us thank God that the possession of our truth is not confined to us and those of our own nation, and, across the seas, let us hold out the right hand of fellowship to all who are bringing it up to the light.

We have given in another column some extracts from Church newspapers concerning the recent decision in the Colenso case. The *Record* is more than satisfied, because the decision appears to give the death-blow to the High Church colonial bishops' scheme. The *Guardian* is restive under the remaining assumptions of the Crown, and affirms that the Crown now has no authority to appoint, or command an archbishop to consecrate, any bishop, except a bishop of a legal see, and that Bishop Gray is therefore a bishop by the Act of Consecration only, and not by any mandate or appointment of the Crown; but this is simply a reiteration of the theory of Apostolic succession. All, avowedly, that the *Churchman* can do is to adopt and recommend to its readers the hopeful view taken by Dr. Pusey. Dr. Pusey's significant letter we have also transferred to our columns. The old leader—almost prophet—of the High-Church party, rejoices in the judgment, and believes that God is saying in it, "Let there be light." He pronounces, as one of the "Liberation" party might pronounce, that the Church of South Africa is now free; that this freedom is far better than a temporal jurisdiction created by the State; that it is the temporal jurisdiction which is "weakness to the Church, and that as the Church in the United States rose from the dust in which it had been trampled, and flourished (as it did not when under the patronage of the State), so, by God's help, will the African." The withdrawing of human props, he adds, "will only show that it endures by a Divine strength inherent in it." We expect many more such utterances as this, and one sees in them the prospect of a realisation of the freedom of the English Church. From South African facts we shall have preached to us doctrines which every man who reads, if the writer and speaker do not do so, may apply to the condition of the Church at home. Then will people be asking the question why if liberty be such a blessing abroad, it is such a curse here? Why, if temporal jurisdiction is bad in the colonies, it is good in the mother country? Why, if the American and the South African Church can flourish in their independence as they did not when under the patronage of the State, may not the English Church, under the same circumstances, likewise flourish? We wait until Churchmen have had time to reflect on the bearings of their present position before we say more. Meanwhile, it seems as though the cloud no bigger than a man's hand had formed, and the rains of heaven were about to descend.

The Bishopric of Lahore Bill, which is being forced to a second reading with unusual rapidity, is now before us, and we are somewhat amazed at the audacity which has brought it forward. It creates, by Act of Parliament, a new bishopric in India; assigns out of the imperial revenues of India the sum of twenty-five thousand six hundred rupees, or 2,560*l.* for the support of the Bishop, and three thousand two hundred rupees, or 320*l.* for the support of an archdeacon. The reason for the measure stated in the preamble, is that the present Bishop of Calcutta cannot perform his duties with efficiency without endangering his health and life, and that it is therefore expedient to diminish his labours by founding a separate bishopric. If our information be correct, this is the first measure of the kind

brought forward in the reign of her present Majesty. We called attention last week to its violation of the Queen's proclamation of 1858, and we now add that we can conceive of nothing more calculated to create a spirit of disaffection amongst the jealous and suspicious natives of India than the forcing upon them of a new Anglican Bishop and compelling them to pay for his support—compelling them, that is to say, to furnish the means by which they may be proselytised. Are the Christian Churchmen of India not rich enough to do this? If they are not, report has belied them. Do the natives ask for it? If they do not, what manner of justice is there in giving it to them? If we are now to grant, out of Imperial revenues—a thing that has not been done in this generation—money to found a bishopric for a favoured sect, where is the system likely to stop? May the same thing not be said of London as of Calcutta? or of Cornwall? or of any of our Crown colonies? We hope that this Bill will be thrown out with indignation, and that the Minister and Government who have introduced it will have such a lesson taught to them that none will be willing to repeat the experiment.

We are glad to see another Easter-dues meeting, such as that at Batley, the proceedings of which we now report. The speech of the Rev. Enoch Mellor referred, as will be seen, largely to the question of "political Dissent," as well as to the new comprehension theory of a State-Church. We agree with Mr. Illingworth that it is disgraceful that such a system as that of Easter-dues should be allowed to continue when it only wants stern opposition to overthrow it. That opposition, however, it is now likely to receive.

THE JUDGMENT IN THE COLENZO CASE.

The following remarkable letter from Dr. Pusey appears in the *Churchman* :—

Sir,—Friends and foes seem to be agreed about the importance of this last decision of the Privy Council. It must have effects far other, probably, than its acute authors were aware of. It looks, at first sight, as if it were producing chaos; yet to us who believe that "the Spirit of God moveth upon the face" of the wild "waters," it is but the chaos over which God says, "Let there be light, and there was light." The judgment dissolves all legal jurisdiction which was supposed to exist in the African Church; but only to make an opening for Divine order. It is no loss to us that it is discovered that the Queen had no power to give the temporal powers which the former legal advisers of the Crown thought she could. It is the Crown deciding against itself. It is no concern of ours which of the two sets of lawyers was right. The present advisers of her Majesty have limited her power; and we may thank God for the limitation, and pardon gladly the gratuitous insolence of the Erastianism of the preamble, for the results which, with no goodwill of Erastians, must result from it. The Church of South Africa, then, is free; and this freedom is far better than a temporal jurisdiction created by the State. It is the temporal jurisdiction which is the weakness of the Church. Had the decision against Dr. Williams and Mr. Wilson in the Court of Arches involved only spiritual consequences, it would not have been made legal for clergymen to deny hell or the inspiration of God's Word. The South African Church will have to organise itself, as the Scotch Church and the Church in the United States had to do before them. And as the Church in the United States rose from the dust in which it had been trampled, and flourished, as it did not when under the patronage of the State, so, by God's help, will the African. We cannot doubt that the bishops there (I do not, of course, speak of Dr. Colenso) will abide under the oath which they have taken, without troubling themselves to consider whether the Bishop of Capetown was made Metropolitan legally, according to human law. He was Metropolitan *de facto*, as such they took their oaths to him; Capetown is marked out naturally as the metropolitan see, and such it will doubtless remain. The organisation of the South African Church is then complete. Had the bishops been (as we were told by the Judicial Committee) "creatures of human [law]," they would have expired with the law. But since, as we know, the Episcopate has a Divine right, and is a Divine institution, the withdrawing of human props will only show that it endures through a Divine strength lodged in it. English Churchmen will have, doubtless, occasion to help to support the South African clergy: but what seems to be defeat in God's hands turns to victory. The Church of England is freed from all complicity with Dr. Colenso, over whom, neither directly nor indirectly, has it any jurisdiction; and the African Church is freed.

Yours truly,

E. B. PUSEY.

The *Guardian* (High-Church) comments on the Colenso judgment as follows :—

Whatever else may follow from the judgment just delivered by the Lord Chancellor, it seems plain that the clergy and laity of Natal may, without fear of any penal consequences, absolutely refuse to yield any submission whatever to Dr. Colenso; in the eye of the law he has no authority at all. It seems also plain that if the "voluntary society" at Natal, holding the doctrine and discipline of the Church of England, shall be minded to accept another bishop, consecrated by the bishops of the province, or by any other bishops, the pastor of their choice will be legally in just as good a position as Dr. Colenso. The Bishop of Capetown's charge just received leaves little room to doubt that he will act upon this hint. Dr. Colenso may perhaps establish his title to the endowments already conferred, for very different purposes, on the See of Natal: his jurisdiction has been absolutely swept away. He will probably endeavour, however, to maintain his episcopal position in the colony;

and we have the prospect before us of a deplorable, perhaps a lasting, schism.

If such a schism shall occur, the Lord Chancellor's judgment holds out no prospect of any legal method to abate or banish it. It does not so much as hint at any kind of tribunal to which a bishop is amenable, even in England, much less in an unestablished Colonial Church. Colonial Churchmen are thrown back on first principles, and must manage their affairs as they would have done if they were living in the first century, and Africa were a province of Imperial Rome.

The present decision, even more than that in Long's case, abstains from throwing light on the duties of a colonial bishop, or the mutual relations of the "voluntary society" known as the Church. It merely tells the Bishop of Capetown that his patent was null, his proceedings void, his authority fictitious. By implication it brings a grave charge of culpable ignorance on those officials who have led him, by the issue of illegal documents, into such unfortunate mistakes. Whatever may have been the error of Bishop Gray, the Crown, which its sham patents and illegal professions, is answerable for it, and ought certainly to hold him harmless in funds for blunders which it has expressly encouraged and induced him to commit. He will be wiser now; and instead of trusting to patents and imaginary legal powers, will throw himself on the Christian faith and devotion of the members of his Church. That he, or they, will accept Dr. Colenso as Bishop of Natal, is not to be thought of. Dr. Colenso may stay in England to hear infidelity maintained and Christian missions insulted at an Anthropological Society, or he may go out to his former see to conduct the missions whose fundamental principles he has denied. But he will not succeed in persuading Churchmen to uphold or admit his authority. The law now leaves them to their own responsibility before God: we have no fear but that they will understand it, and act upon it aright.

The *Unitarian Herald* expresses a hope that if the Bishop of Natal returns to his diocese his intelligent Zulus will rally round him. "Already, in imagination, we see them organising a barbaric banquet in his honour, with that critical native who first aroused his mind to the study of theology in the chair, and a few of his evangelical adversaries appropriately sacrificed on the altar of free biblical criticism, to provide the usual relish of 'cold missionary on the side-board.'"

ANTI-EASTER-DUES MEETING AT BATLEY.

On Tuesday evening last a crowded public meeting was held in the Town-hall, Batley, Yorkshire, for the purpose of taking into consideration the question of Easter-dues, and also to consider whether it is advisable to free religion from State patronage and control.

Mr. THOMAS TAYLOR occupied the chair, and in the course of his opening remarks said that they all knew that the Vicar of Batley was prosecuting two of their ministers, one a Baptist and the other an Independent; against the Baptist minister he had been unsuccessful, but as to their friend Mr. Hall, he had fallen into the talons of an ecclesiastical hawk—(applause)—and he believed he would be held there until he had paid the uttermost farthing; and if his goods would not cover the amount of the debt and the expenses, he would have to be incarcerated in prison. He was very glad Mr. Hall was a very plucky fellow—(applause and laughter)—and one who would sacrifice anything rather than sit down with an injustice. (Applause.)

Mr. RICHARD CLARKSON then spoke, and said he thought they were not met that night so much to protest against Easter-dues—though that was the occasion of their meeting—as to protest against the most unjust principle at the bottom of it. (Applause.) The principle he held was this—that every man had a right to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience—(applause)—and that no man, whoever he might be—not even the highest in the realm, had any right to put any civil disabilities on any man on account of his religious opinions. ("Hear, hear," and applause.)

The Rev. ENOCH MELLOR, M.A., of Liverpool, on rising, was greeted with loud applause. In his opening remarks, he said that, though he had left that county, he was always glad to get an opportunity, to say nothing of an excuse, to travel over the border and come back to the Yorkshire people—(Applause)—when he found men valiant in the defence of that which they believed to be the truth, and with his love to them as a stranger, he came because he heard that in Batley, above all the places in Yorkshire, animated as it was by the spirit of liberty and free-trade, there was one to whom attached the highest spiritual functions as a minister of Christ, who had consented to lend himself to a prosecution which was wrong in the sight of the world and in the sight of God. He was not going to utter a syllable that would be in the nature of a calumny against the Established Church. He was ready fully to admit that hundreds and thousands of the inhabitants of our country afforded instances of their affection for the Church in which they were born—which was the Church of the monarch, the Court, and the aristocracy, and of the wealth of our country. (Applause.) Yet it would be simple flattery to allege that all the affection which was shown for the Church now was the affection of a religious nature and nothing more, and it would not be truthful for him to say that all the affection shown for Dissent was really from a love of Dissent.

When there were cathedrals, archbishoprics, bishoprics, deaneries, archdeaneries, rectories, and archrectories—and when they found men striving for these things, it would be perfectly absurd to think that these men loved this Church entirely for the spiritual good, and not a little bit for what it did for them. (Loud laughter.) Yet they lived in times in which men did not shrink from branding them as Dissenters for standing on a platform like that and vindicating the glorious independence of Divine truth in all its purity and its omnipotence. Yet there were men who did not shrink from branding them to their very faces with the stinging name

of "political Dissenters." ("Hear, hear," applause, and laughter.) If he stood on a Liberation platform, he was a "political Dissenter." (Applause.) Now it was his purpose that evening to bear that accusation to tatters—(applause)—to very rags—(loud applause)—which would defy all the machinery in Batley to weave into anything that should have the appearance of consistency—(applause)—and should not be a web to be sold in any market, either in this country or anywhere else. (Loud applause and laughter.) "Political Dissenter!" he claimed to be that. (Applause.) He should not shrink from the name. (Applause.) He accepted the compound and gloried in it—(laughter and applause)—and he would wear the crown, and the coronet if they liked, of political Dissent—(loud applause)—and they must mark this—that when these words were uttered by Church people, Dissenters were expected to tremble as if an ogre or a spectre were standing before them—(laughter)—as if they might expect some night when returning home from church to meet some horrible thing, not of this life but of the other—(loud laughter)—beware of him, he is a political Dissenter—(laughter)—or they might say "Oh, we like Mr. So-and-so, because he never speaks about politics." (Laughter.)

He asked, if it was wrong to be a political Dissenter, was it right to be a political Churchman? He would go a little further and see what this Churchman was—

He would say to him—So you are not a political Dissenter, are you; and you belong to that party in this country, do you?—Yes, I do.—Who is your Bishop?—The Bishop of Ripon, or of Oxford.—Who appointed him? Now don't shrink; tell the truth; it is always best to tell the truth. (Laughter.) Who did appoint him? Did not Lord Palmerston?—Why, yes.—Well, don't shudder now, as if you were going into cold water. Well, it is Lord Palmerston who appointed the bishop, and is not Lord Palmerston the Prime Minister, and is he considered pre-eminently godly? (Applause.) Oh! he appointed the bishop, did he? Well, how did he appoint him. Did not he send down a *congé d'élire*—that was a document sent down authorising the dean and chapter to elect a bishop, but he told them the man whom they must elect. Well, he sent down the *congé d'élire* saying who should be elected, and actually put in the name of the man they must elect. Yes, the Churchman replies, he did. Well, does not that look very like Hobson's choice, bread and butter, or butter and bread, which you like?—(laughter)—and he must be elected whether he was liked or not; there was only one way for it. Well, but suppose the dean and chapter did not elect him, then there was the law of *præmunire*, and if the dean would not elect the man Lord Palmerston had sent down, their goods and chattels could be taken and their bodies sacrificed wherever they might be found; or they might, in addition to the loss of their goods and chattels, be imprisoned. When the Rev. Dr. Hampden was appointed Bishop of Hereford he was a Broad Churchman, and Dean Merewether, who was a High Churchman, did not like him, and refused to appoint him. He sent a note to Earl Russell saying so, but in a short time Dean Merewether received a letter from Earl Russell which said, "I understand Dean Merewether intends to break the law." That was what Earl Russell said. Dean Merewether understood it perfectly, and the bishop was appointed notwithstanding. (Laughter.) The Dean of Chichester—Dr. Hook, late of Leeds—in a sermon preached at Manchester, in Oct., 1863, two copies of which sermon he had in his house, in which these words were used, with regard to this *congé d'élire*—"The *congé d'élire* authorising the election of a bishop is a lying document." The bishop wears his mitre with a lie, he bears his crozier with a lie, he wears his lawn sleeves by a lie, he confirms by a lie, and he ordains by a lie. This, according to the explicit testimony of the Dean of Chichester, and he was Dr. Hook; and yet he, a Dissenter, having an interest in everything that concerned this life, was to keep his mouth sealed lest he should be called a "political Dissenter." They might call him what they would, but nothing but death should seal his mouth to an abomination like that. (Rounds of applause.) "Political Dissenter?" Why if he went into the House of Commons, and looked at the gentlemen sitting there, he should find that not one out of ten of the representatives of this country were Dissenters at all. Were they then Church people in the House of Commons? Yes, they were. But they would say, why, this is a political house. "So it was." Then there must be political Churchmen. "Oh, yes, certainly." "Well," he would say, let us go to the "other House." Well, we go in, and looking around, exclaim, "dear me, how white! Who are those gentlemen who are sitting there so much like a snow drift—so very white?" "Oh, these are the bishops," says the Churchman—"Bishops in the House of Lords, is that a political House?" "Yes." "Oh, are they political Dissenters?" (Loud laughter.) "No, not quite," says the Churchman. (Laughter.) "Are they Churchmen?" "Yes." "Do they give votes on political questions?" "Yes!" "Then are not they political Churchmen?" (Laughter.) "Well, yes, certainly." So that nine-tenths of the House of Commons and of the House of Lords are political Churchmen. Yet, with dark hypocrisy, they could come to him, and say, "You are a political Dissenter." (Applause.)

There never was a more shameful and snivelling tirade or more contemptible accusation launched against any body of men than that which had been launched by Churchmen against Dissenters. (Applause.) Mr. Mellor then replied to the argument that if they had not an Established Church religion would die out. Why, for three centuries there was no Established Church, and for those centuries they withstood all persecution, and flourished, but when Constantine took it and nursed it he poisoned it in its very fibres. (Applause.) Then it was said it was very important you should have an established religion for the good of the people. He asked what religion was established in this country?

Well, they were told this, and he should like to have the Bishop of Oxford there, and he would put him through a small catechism. (Laughter, and applause.) He would ask him what was the established religion of this country, and he would defy the Bishop of Oxford, or any other bishop, to tell him what it was. They had that day in the newspapers the decision in the "Colenso" case—(applause)—and it was agreed that the Bishop of

Capetown had no adjudication and no power to inquire into Colenso's views—(applause)—about inspiration—(applause)—and the Bishop of Natal could go off that very night to Natal and teach those under his care that the Bible was not inspired, and if he liked he could appoint deans, and archdeacons, also clergymen throughout the whole of his diocese at Natal, and say that the Zulus should be taught that the Bible was not an inspired work. He could do this, and be a Bishop of the Church of England. He again asked—"What is the religion established in our country?" One man said it was High-Churchism, another Broad-Churchism, and it was said by some that by "Evangelism you are carrying us off altogether"; and some talked as though they were dissatisfied with them if they were neither Broad Church, like Dean Stanley, or High Church. Be content, while others said, "Hold your tongues, don't you know when you are comfortable?" In the very last number of *Frazer's Magazine* there was an article by Dean Stanley advocating a scheme most complete and comprehensive—enlarging the views of the Church of England, so as to include Colenso, the Bishop of Oxford, and the Bishop of Ripon—three men standing as far apart as the heels on the Isle of Man penny. (Loud laughter.) Yes, it was to be a comprehensive system." Then he said, "In the name of God, if we can do with an established religion which has no definition, we can do better without it." (Loud applause.) Bring to them a consistent union and logical harmony, bring to them a system that was self-sustaining, that they could look at it and say whether they would have it or not. When they came to them let them say, "We want to have a religion established, but we do not want it to be any number of colours, like Joseph's coat, for if one colour was right the other could not be right; if black was right, white or red or green could not be. He should advise them to get half a dozen tanks put down—to suit the strong High Church, the Low Church, and the modified Church, and every other beautiful combination, and say to the people, "Now we intend to lay these tanks upon the town, and if you will send us notice what kind of water you want we will put a pipe from that tank to your cottage—(laughter)—and then you shall have High, Low, or Broad Church water as you like." (Roars of laughter.) This was moral dishonesty in the intensest degree. (Applause.) But then they might say, "Have not you Dissenters many faiths amongst you?" He answered Yes, but we pay for them. (Loud laughter and applause.)

The speaker gave several illustrations to show that the Church of England, and not Dissent, caused the large increase in the Church of Rome, and numerous instances of eminent men who had left the Church of England and gone into the Church of Rome. He concluded amid loud and enthusiastic applause.

After an address from the Rev. R. BOWMAN, of Heckmondwike, Mr. ALFRED ILLINGWORTH suggested that they should raise a sum of money to hold harmless Mr. Hall and other honest men who might venture to say "No" to such a demand as was made by the Vicar of Batley. It would be disgraceful if a system of this sort was to be allowed to remain in being for twelve months longer, when it only wanted their stern opposition to overthrow it. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. G. F. ROWE, solicitor's clerk, of Mirfield, ascended the platform, holding under his arm a bundle of books. He was received with cheers and counter cheers. He addressed the meeting at great length in favour of the State Church principle in a rambling speech amid continual interruption.

Mr. JOHN TAYLOR then moved, and Mr. F. MARRIOTT seconded the following resolution:—

That this meeting, deeply impressed with the injustice of Easter-dues, pledges itself to render all the help in its power to the Batley Anti-Easter-dues Association, which has been established for the purpose of resisting these imposts. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN put the motion, and it was carried with acclamation, only one hand being held up in opposition, and the person was assailed by many voices with "He's not a ratepayer."

Mr. ROWE then further addressed the meeting till the hall began to empty, and he could no longer be heard. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

THE REV. R. VAUGHAN, D.D., AND THE STUDENTS OF AIREDALE COLLEGE.

The visit of Dr. Vaughan to Bradford, to preach at Salem Chapel for the Sunday-school, has furnished an occasion for the students of Airedale College to pay their respects to a man so eminent as a divine and a scholar. In compliance with an invitation from the students and tutors, Dr. Vaughan dined in the Common-hall on Monday last. After dinner the company adjourned to the library; Dr. Fraser, President of the college, presiding.

In opening the proceedings, Dr. FRASER expressed the pleasure it gave himself and his colleagues to do honour to the Rev. Dr. Vaughan.

Mr. B. WAUGH, the senior student, then read an address from the students.

TO THE REVEREND ROBERT VAUGHAN, D.D.

Reverend Sir,—We, the students of Airedale College, desire hereby to testify to you the high esteem which we entertain for your personal character, and the great value we attach to the results of your abundant labours. By your firm, powerful, and long-continued maintenance of the faith of the Gospel against the influences of a pernicious philosophy, you have laid under a conscious obligation the enlightened and devout in the universal church. Especially are we sensible of most practical and lasting benefits which you have conferred upon the Independent churches of our land. We entertain a deep conviction that, in prosecuting our future labours for the extension of the kingdom of Christ, we shall enjoy many advantages which have been secured for us by your piety, your learning, and your unwearying labours.

Unitedly, therefore, as members of the Church of Christ, but especially as young men preparing for public service in the cause of practical religion and evangelical truth, we would hereby express our lively sense of

personal obligation to you. We would also assure you that we do heartily pray that you may be long preserved to labour for Christ on earth, and that you may finally receive from Him the highest rewards.

The address, illuminated on parchment, was then presented to the Doctor.

Dr. VAUGHAN on rising was enthusiastically received. He said that by the address then read he and the students had ceased to be strangers. After half a century of public labour it was to him a great pleasure and an abundant reward to find evidence that in some degree he had been useful. After expressing his high appreciation of the sentiments of the address, he proceeded to make some observations on the future work of the students. The Doctor briefly reviewed the Gospel history of preachers, showing that here was an order of things the world had not seen before. He urged upon the students the importance of preaching the simple Gospel, by which he did not mean the mere iteration of commonplace utterances, but the intelligent unfolding of the great truths of revealed religion. No man, in his opinion, was qualified for the ministry who was unable to grasp the great theme of salvation in all its length and breadth. For this, he considered, amongst other things, the study of mental and ethical science indispensable. After speaking of the difficulties of the Congregational ministry, he assured his hearers that had he to begin life again he should cast his lot among the Congregationalists. He urged upon his young brethren not to let their great trouble be to gain, but rather to deserve, the love and confidence of Christian hearts. He then reviewed the progress which their principles had made throughout Europe, noticed the position which they held in our colonies, remarked upon the spirit of voluntarism which was permeating the Established Church, all pointing to the ultimate triumph of those New Testament principles which Independents held. The rev. Doctor concluded his address, which occupied about an hour in its delivery, amidst the most enthusiastic demonstrations of the students.

Professor Shearer, M.A., the Rev. J. A. Savage (secretary of the college), and the Rev. J. G. Miall, tutor in pastoral theology, briefly testified their great pleasure in taking part in expression of admiration of one so deservedly esteemed.

ABOLITION OF TESTS AT OXFORD.

The bill brought into the House of Commons by Mr. GÜSCHEN and Mr. Grant Duff, "to provide for the abolition of certain tests in connection with academical degrees at the University of Oxford," proposes to enact as follows:—

1. From and after the first day of Michaelmas term, 1865, no person shall be required, upon taking or to enable him to take the degree of Master in Arts or any other academical degree not named in the hereinbefore recited 44th section of the said act, to subscribe any formulary of faith, or to make or subscribe any declaration, or to take any oath concerning his religious faith or profession, any law or statute to the contrary notwithstanding: provided always, that such degree shall not as such constitute any qualification for the holding of any office which has been heretofore always held by a member of the United Church of England and Ireland, and for which such degree has heretofore constituted one of the qualifications, until the person obtaining the same shall have subscribed a declaration that he is a *bond fide* member of the United Church of England and Ireland, in the form contained in the schedule to this act annexed.

2. No person taking or having taken the degree of bachelor in arts, law, medicine, or music, shall from and after the said first day of Michaelmas term, 1865, as a qualification for any office heretofore always held by a member of the United Church of England and Ireland, and for which such degree has heretofore constituted one of the qualifications; be required, under the hereinbefore recited 44th section of the said recited act, to subscribe any formulary of faith, or to make or subscribe any declaration or take any oath concerning his religious faith or profession, but shall instead, as a qualification for any such office, subscribe the declaration contained in the said schedule to this annexed.

SCHEDULE.

I do declare that I am a *bond fide* member of the United Church of England and Ireland as it is now by law established.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE ON SUNDAY.

(From a Correspondent.)

In 1846 a large number of acts of Parliament imposing penalties and disabilities in regard to religious opinion were repealed.

The bill just introduced by Mr. Clifford, in association with Messrs. Russell and Shaw Lefevre, proposes to remove from the statute-book what remain of the enactments which give power to inflict penalties for not attending church. By an act (scheduled in the bill for repeal) passed in the reign of Elizabeth, every person, above sixteen, not repairing to some church, chapel, or usual place of common prayer for one month forfeits the sum of 20*l.*, and is to be bound with two sufficient sureties in the sum of 200*l.* at least for good behaviour.

As an illustration of a state of things it is to be hoped now no longer possible, it may not be without interest to give the following summary of a case attempted to be brought within the statute, tried before Mr. Baron Graham, at the Bedfordshire Lent Assizes, 1816. The plaintiff was the Rev. Dr. Edward Drake Free, rector of Sutton, and the defendant was one of his parishioners, Major-General Sir Montagu Roger Burgoyne, Bart., of Sutton-park, in the county of Bedford. Dr. Free appeared in court dressed in his canonicals, and was prepared to take part in the conduct of his own cause. He addressed the court, and submitted some of the facts of the case, stated the grounds upon which he acted, and concluded by

saying that he would leave his counsel to go on with the matter, and address the court himself as occasion might seem to him to require it.

By the ruling of the judge he was put to his election as to whether he would conduct the cause himself or leave it to his counsel. He adopted the latter course.

From the pleadings it appeared that it was a *quidam* action brought under the statute of Elizabeth to recover from the defendant for neglecting to attend Divine worship in the parish church of Sutton or any other place of public prayer for nineteen months, whereby he became liable to pay a fine of 20*l.* per month, amounting in the whole to 380*l.* The penalty was divisible into three equal parts, one to the Queen, another to the poor of the parish, and a third to the informer.

For the defence, after comments upon the character and interpretation of the statute, it was urged that during a portion of the period no service had been held in the church at all, and reasonable excuse for non-attendance was offered in the precarious state of Sir Montague Burgoyne's health, and it was stated that ample provision had been made by him for reading the church prayers to the family every Sunday.

Finally, it was contended that any person who had offended against the statute escaped the consequences by conforming to the rules of the Church before judgment, and declaring himself to be a true son of the Church of England, which the defendant had done to the Bishop, and was ready in court to repeat.

After Baron Graham had summed up the evidence the jury without hesitation found the defendant not guilty.

[We may remark that Colonel Clifford has withdrawn his bill, it having been found that the acts with which he proposed to deal were repealed in 1846 by the Act of the 9th and 10th of Victoria, cap. 59.]

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY AT READING.—A meeting of the Liberation Society, convened by circular, was held in this town on Tuesday evening, March 22nd. C. J. Andrews, Esq., in the chair. Mr. Carvell Williams attended as a deputation, and delivered a lucid and impressive address on the past and prospective work of the society. An interesting conversation followed, in which several of the leading Nonconformists of the town took part, expressing their cordial concurrence in the objects and policy pursued by the Association. The Rev. W. Legg, B.A., moved, and W. Exall, Esq., seconded, a resolution appointing delegates to the approaching Triennial Conference. Mr. G. Kidgell moved, and Mr. A. Tisdell seconded, the appointment of a local committee. After short addresses from the Rev. R. Bulmer, the Rev. J. F. Stevenson, B.A., and others, votes of thanks were passed to the chairman and Mr. Williams.

SINGULAR CHURCH-RATE CASE.—In the Court of Arches on Saturday, before Dr. Lushington, the case of Edwards and Mann v. Hutton was heard. The plaintiffs were churchwardens of Mattishall, in Norfolk, and the defendant was a parishioner, and was sued for a Church-rate, which he refused to pay. The matter came before the Court on the question of an admission of an allegation by the defendant. The Queen's Advocate and Dr. Swabey were for the churchwardens, and Dr. Deane, Q.C., and Dr. Tristram for the defendant. The point was whether an allegation that the defendant had been assessed at a smaller sum than he was liable to pay could be pleaded by him in answer to the complaint. Dr. Swabey contended that there was no injustice in the rate to him. The allegation was that he was assessed at 80*l.* and his assessment should be 100*l.* There was no inequality of the rate to his injury, and if long litigation respecting Church-rates on such a pretence could prevail, it would be a very serious matter. Dr. Deane and Dr. Tristram urged that the rating was unequal, and therefore bad in law. It mattered not whether the assessment was too little or too much; the principle was the same, and it was a complete answer to the case. Dr. Lushington said his opinion was that one case was as good as fifty to support the argument as to an unequal Church-rate. He would, however, as the point was of importance, consider the peculiar facts. His lordship reserved his judgment.

THE COLYTON BURIAL CASE.—We are informed that the Bishop of Exeter has issued a commission to inquire into the complaint against the Vicar of Colyton, in the case of John Pavey. The time and place of sitting are not yet fixed.—*Inquirer.*

CAMBRIDGE UNION SOCIETY.—The debate on Tuesday last was on the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of this house the Established Church in Ireland ought to be maintained as an endowed establishment by our Government." On a division the numbers were—for the motion, 54; against it, 53; majority for the motion, 1.

THE DIVISION ON THE QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICES ABOLITION BILL.—Amongst the members who voted in the minority on Thursday night against the third reading of this bill, were Mr. Adderley, Lord John Manners, Right Hon. J. R. Mowbray, Sir Stafford Northcote, and Colonel Taylor. The supporters of the bill included Mr. Brand, Mr. Cowper, Mr. M. Gibson, Mr. Gladstone, Sir George Grey, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, Lord Palmerston, Sir C. Wood, and a large number of Irish members. The only Conservative members who voted with the majority were Mr. Antrobus, Mr. Gaskell, Mr. Hennessey, Sir E. Lacon, Mr. H. Moor, Colonel Vandeleur, and Mr. C. W. Williams Wynn. Mr. Gilpin paired in favour of, with Mr. Cubitt against.

CARDINAL WISEMAN'S SUCCESSOR.—The *John Bull* of Friday says:—"A reliable correspondent, who has recently received direct information from

a well-informed source at Rome, writes to us that it is there reported that the present Bishop of Clifton, the Hon. William Joseph Hugh Clifford, D.D., will be immediately appointed Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, in place of the late Cardinal Wiseman; that the Hon. George Talbot, D.D., domestic chamberlain to his Holiness the Pope, who will, notwithstanding, remain in Rome, will be created cardinal (it being held to be desirable that at least one Englishman receive this dignity); and that the Right Rev. Monsignor Manning, D.D., will be denominated Bishop of Clifton, with legatine powers, so that he will rank, after Dr. Clifford, first of the English Roman Catholic Bishops. The Very Rev. Canon O'Neal, of St. John's-wood, will, in the place of Dr. Manning, fill the office of Roman Catholic Provost of Westminster.

Religious Intelligence.

THE FREE CHURCHES OF LONDON AND CHRISTIAN WORK.

VIII.

SPITALFIELDS AND ITS MISSIONS.

Spitalfields is suggestive of French refugees, the silk manufacture, and chronic distress. When were its weavers ever known to be prosperous, its rates to be low, or its pauperism to diminish? Something might be said about its past history—about Huguenots and Walloons who settled there, and made England richer with a new industry. But we wish to practise no deception. The Ragged-schools, or "Territorial Mission"—both terms will apply—carried on by the church of Union Chapel, Islington, are not now really in Spitalfields at all, but in Bethnal-green—a name even more suggestive of poverty, starvation, and death. "The Nichol-street Ragged-schools and Mission Station" stand at the junction of the three parishes of Shoreditch, Spitalfields, and Bethnal-green—a *terra incognita* known to civilised London only through the lurid medium of coroners' inquests and police reports, or seen afar off by the traveller on the Great Eastern Railway as he is whirled over the housetops of that unsavoury region. Thank God! there are intrepid men—and women too—who have explored a district as little familiar to most of us as the interior of Africa; and in the reports of the Mission referred to may be found passages of a descriptive force worthy to be ranked with the more popular pages of our great authors, who too often, in their ignorance, assert that British philanthropy cares more for the savage tribes of Heathendom at the end of the world, than for the wretched pariahs beneath its own ken in the streets of London. The following extract gives us a glimpse of the district of which we are speaking:—

Few, very few, know anything of the vast neighbourhoods comprised in the three parishes of Shoreditch, Whitechapel, and Bethnal-green, with an aggregate population of nearly 400,000 souls; and of their moral and religious state, still less is known. The accommodation, furnished by the whole number of places of worship (according to the census of 1851), is but for one-eighth of that number, a state of things not to be equalled in any other spot in England. The neighbourhood consists of a vast number of small streets, narrow courts, and blind alleys, with hardly a principal thoroughfare through them, and nearly the whole population of but two classes, either the poor operative and labourer, or the vicious and abandoned,—it would be difficult in many districts of these parishes to say which predominate; for no such masses of these classes exist in any other portion of the metropolis. There are spots scattered over it, and in some cases pretty largely, but none of one-tenth part the size of this pre-eminently ragged-school neighbourhood—each court the abiding place of ignorance, and the nursery of crime, furnishing ample material in itself for a ragged-school of no small dimensions. The committee believe that in no spot are dwellings so overcrowded, where in the rottenness of squalid homes, vice is ever to be found, and disease never absent; where fever and pestilence marshal their forces, preparing for their nightly foray, when creeping in the heat of a summer's evening, from their hideous lair, they invade the sleeping town. For the public health and security, it has become imperative that attention should be directed to the state of the East of London, and how better can it be done, than by ragged-school and City mission reports? They have a limited circulation certainly, but it is amongst a large-hearted class; who have done much, and will yet do more, to help the cause of progress; for they are not merely readers but doers. The committee feel that the reference to such social evils as bear directly on the work and retard its progress is not merely allowable, but should be looked for. A mere record of school labour would be bald and uninteresting; in fact, such labour itself, can only be profitable in proportion to the intelligent appreciation of the habits and home-life of the peculiar class (varying almost in every neighbourhood) with which they are brought into contact. Besides, no ragged-school fulfils its mission unless it is a humanising institution, adapting and originating agencies to meet the wants of the surrounding population. The great evil to which the committee would draw the serious attention of all thoughtful men, is the fearfully overcrowded state of the dwelling-houses.

Few, perhaps, are aware that some of the most densely-peopled localities in London are owned by men of rank, corporate bodies, public charities, deans and chapters, or endowed schools. You naturally ask, But

are these landlords the recipients of the five shillings a week for the room or storey, as the case may be? In most instances they are not; the property being let on long leases. Often the first leaseholder is also a man of some position in society, and leases this kind of property largely. He grants a sub-lease to a middleman, and he, probably disliking the trouble of collecting the rents, and not understanding repairs, again underlets, or employs an agent, giving him a considerable interest in the management of the property.

But who is the manager? Generally one who has been for some years the victim of the system he is now administering. You can scarcely expect the man, with the recollections of his own wrongs, the force of custom strong upon him, with his imperfect education, or rather the total want of it, with that absence of religious or moral restraint so prevalent amongst this class, to be more conscientious or more feeling than his brethren. He will grind others as he himself has been ground; prey upon others as he himself has been preyed upon; their loss being his gain, he will indemnify himself at the expense of the tenants for years of previous oppression.

But what do the tenants pay for? Houses, with the boards crumbling like rotten bones—with rents in the walls that your arms could be thrust through—with casements only held together with atoms of string—with staircases so crazy as to bend under your tread like pasteboard, without water or any decent accommodation, and at rents which, in proportion to the accommodation, no other class of the community pays. Of course two rooms are a luxury hardly ever thought of, certainly not in the immediate streets surrounding our schools; and these tenants are not only the vicious, but the industrious, who ought to be the very sinews of society. In these wretched dwellings, all ages and all sexes—fathers and daughters, mothers and sons, grown-up brothers and sisters, and swarms of children—the sick, the dying, and the dead—are herded together in such close proximity that would not be tolerated by savages, and which brutes would resist. Where it is physically impossible to preserve the ordinary decencies of life, all sense of propriety and self-respect must be lost, and be placed only by a recklessness of demeanour which necessarily results from vitiated minds.

Or take the following brief but suggestive description of the immediate neighbourhood of the Nichol-street Ragged-schools:—

This spot is a stagnant corner of the world, the inhabitants being all poor together; each room in each house occupied by a distinct family—the wealthier few, indeed, occupying two; hardly a tradesman or employer living amongst them finding employment. Here they toil their lives painfully away to earn the barest starvation. The actual sub-district in which we are situated is about a quarter of a mile square, and contains 15,000 inhabitants—the population of a country-town, standing almost on as many acres as this does yards; and has but one place of worship, with a small school attached, to meet its entire spiritual and educational requirements.

In this apparently irreclaimable jungle of human misery and depravity, some of the Christian philanthropists of Islington have been at work for more than a generation. The mission was begun in 1836 by the personal exertions, and for some years carried on, at the sole expense, of one Christian man, Mr. Jonathan Duthoit, engaged in the silk trade, and a member of Union Chapel. We have not space to give a connected account of the smallness of its beginnings, of the great discouragements encountered and overcome, of the change wrought in the neighbourhood in past years by this benevolent agency, and of the gradual growth of the enterprise. Such a history, interesting though it be, cannot be sketched in a few sentences. A quotation or two from the reports must suffice. In 1861 the improved external aspect of the district was thus alluded to:—

The outward condition of the neighbourhood, bad as it still is, has greatly improved. For many years its only drainage was down the gutters by the sides of the pavement, accumulating in places in nauseous pools; and many a half cwt. of chloride of lime has been sunk by the teachers in very self-defence; now there is good underground drainage. Those moral police—gas-lamps, have been multiplied, water is more abundant;—many—very many, of the most dilapidated houses have been rebuilt. The lodging-houses, thanks to our noble chairman's exertions, have been put under proper inspection. Such changes cannot be said to have been brought about by the direct agency of the schools; but there is little doubt that the attention drawn to the spot by their means has been the remedy of some of the grosser evils, especially the dispersion of several formidable gangs of thieves.

But the most striking change is in the condition of the streets on the Sabbath. When the schools were first opened, the scenes enacted were so gross as to defy description; the principal actors being abandoned women, who, jumping over ropes stretched across the streets, and such conduct, gathered crowds of onlookers, outlying each other in the obscenity of their actions and remarks. The scene is now changed; the streets, especially on the Sabbath afternoon, are orderly and quiet. The moral power of this agency has effected it; and in spite of the constant change of people—a change almost as constant (except amongst the weavers) as the waves of the sea.

Many unrecorded anecdotes might be told to indicate "the moral power of this agency." We cannot withhold one. On the occasion of a treat to the children, two thieves attempted to hustle the gentleman who carried the money, and rob him in the confusion. They nearly succeeded, but not quite. The gang to which they belonged, influenced probably by the general indignation around, drummed the rascals out of their fraternity. Thus there is sometimes "honour among thieves." No act of violence has since been committed, nor insult or indignity offered

to any engaged at the schools. The numerous teachers pass to and fro without molestation, or aught but friendly recognition.

The history of this movement is a record of continuous expansion. Room after room has been added, and new ones erected, till the Mission is in possession of a large block of buildings, which stand out as an oasis in a desert of squalid and dilapidated dwellings. Its first great enlargement cost 1,500*l.*, its second, not long after, entailed an expense of 1,000*l.*, and now the growing wants of the neighbourhood, and the crowds of ragged children who press forward, have necessitated further outlay. In fact, in the extent of its premises, and the magnitude of its educational operations, the Nichol-street Ragged-school is surpassed by scarcely one in the metropolis. No other—of anything like the size—is exclusively associated with a single church. Union Chapel can claim the Mission as its own child, and is able also to exercise all the rights of paternity, carrying out, in conjunction with its own missionary, its own plans without let or hindrance. Though managed by a separate committee, all its staff, from the treasurer downwards, belong to Islington, and five-sixths of the teachers are from Mr. Allon's congregation.

Are any of our readers unfamiliar with the working of such institutions? Let us invite them to accompany us, escorted by one of the superintendents—whom long service in this meritorious enterprise has made familiar with the district—on a week-night visit. Emerging from the glare of Shoreditch, we plunge to the right into the maze of dimly-lit streets, where a respectable stranger unattended would do well to button his pocket, and keep a sharp look-out. Soon we come to the pile of buildings which the Nonconformists of Islington have erected, or adapted, or are extending. At the corner of a side street opposite is a stately structure, for that neighbourhood, not yet tenanted. What is this fine house, which puts to shame the architectural simplicity of the Ragged-schools? It is a rival—a gin-palace. Here, as elsewhere in all poverty-stricken localities, the publicans are a thriving set. In truth, they hold a large proportion of the adjoining house property, which, repulsive as it may appear, pays a good percentage. For overcrowding, which kills the tenant, pays the landlord. On the other side of the way is a new erection, as yet unfinished, which is to provide a large schoolroom, class-rooms, &c., for our Islington friends. We pass on to the main entrance. It is already besieged by a crowd of ragged urchins, full half an hour before the doors are opened, who salute their teacher with more heartiness than politeness. Inside the lofty and capacious hall, where some 300 of these items of humanity may be stowed away, are already assembled the teachers of the evening—ladies and gentlemen, who have come on foot from distant Highbury, and are preparing for their ragged guests. Let us fill up the time by going out again into the streets. Next to the inchoate gin-palace aforesaid is a house of humbler pretensions, on the glass-door of which "Working Men's Club" offers a welcome. The front room is a soup-kitchen, whither the very destitute flock by hundreds during the winter months "to procure the supplies necessary to keep themselves and families from starvation." You pass by the kitchen for tea, coffee, &c., into a commodious room, cheerful and bright with gas-light, and fitted with substantial benches and tables, where a score or more of working men are enjoying their relaxation—playing at bagatelle, reading, smoking their pipes, &c., at their ease. A penny a week—no questions asked—secures these advantages, and also the management of the affair for the member alone. There is no patronage about it, though the place has been fitted up at a considerable expense by the liberality of one of the teachers, aided by others. Thus one good agency grows out of another. Perhaps the proprietor of the adjoining "palace" may think that the club is an unwarrantable interference with his vested interests. At all events, the members, who at present are about a hundred, have by a large majority voted down a proposal for the introduction of intoxicating drinks into the club.

Returning to the school—it is now eight o'clock—the doors are thrown open. And here we may say they are kept open for half-an-hour to all the little ragamuffins who may choose to come. Boys and girls surge in with that rude uproar which is not peculiar to ragged-schools—the majority, of course, being regular and generally eager attendants. At length they settle down to their desks or forms, and, after a short opening prayer, the boys turn to their writing and ciphering, the girls to their reading. On four nights the lessons are reversed—so that, during four nights in the week, all comers may be initiated into the mysteries of the three R's. Thus, some 700 or 800 children are, in a greater or less degree,

grounded in the elements of education in these week-night schools. Stragglers drop in, and ere long the place is filled. Sometimes the doors are shut on numbers for whom no room can be found. If the visitor should suppose that these unwashed, shock-headed, and ill-clad, but often intelligent little fellows, haven't a penny in their pockets, he would be mistaken. Nearly all, at the neighbouring factories or by doing odd jobs, are earning wages—some portion of which finds its way to the Penny Bank, which takes care of more than 100*l.* a-year, and thus teaches the young depositors a lesson of prudence and economy. Many learn to write an excellent hand, and others are quick at their sums. It is surprising how keenly these children, already earning their living, appreciate the advantages of a little education. At nine o'clock schooling ceases, and an address on some instructive subject is delivered, or a passage of Scripture is read; the evening's work concluding with praise and prayer. It would be an excellent moral regimen—a new experience—for some of our city Dombays, or our statesmen, educationists, and high-and-dry clergy, to go to Spitalfields, if only to listen to the singing of some hundred or two of these outcast children. Three times on the Sabbath there is Sunday-school instruction, not to teach reading, but to talk with the children—such, at least, as cannot read—about some passage in the Bible, varied at times by special services. The evening Sunday-school is filled almost entirely by the roughest of the ragged, and to tame and curb them sometimes requires the utmost address of the teachers and superintendent. We believe it has been the experience of the Nichol-street School that the wildest of our street Arabs have been most easily subdued by woman's gentleness, and many a touching story might be told of feminine success in this work. The "teacher" is in truth the keystone of the system. He or she comes into personal contact with the individual heart, and if its affections are won, "the result is such," says Lord Shaftesbury, "as no show-room could produce, from the workhouse to Eton or Rugby." "I have seen," adds this experienced friend of ragged-schools, "the fiercest subdued by a single act of affection." The statement, therefore, is not surprising, that a large, sometimes the larger, number of the children voluntarily stay behind after the school to join their teachers in their monthly prayer-meeting, nor that many of the old scholars have become teachers, nor that an average of as many as fifty children in this particular school yearly take the Ragged-school Union prize for keeping their situations for twelve months to the satisfaction of their employers.

These several agencies for Christianising and humanising that part of the rising generation which might else be in the gutters or the prison, are purely voluntary. Now and then a paid teacher has been tried, but found to be useless. In the course of every week for nine months in the year about a hundred of the flower of Union Chapel congregation—young men in easy circumstances, and young ladies delicately nurtured—twice walk backwards and forwards—it is a distance of three miles—on their blessed mission. To a remark that the work in which they are engaged was very self-denying, the reply was, "We do not regard it so; it's a greater self-denial to stay away." Their view of human wretchedness and degradation is certainly not "telescopic," and it might do good to many a political economist and humanitarian who contemptuously puts religion out of his theoretical remedies, or a novelist who cares to see but one side of the shield, to witness this gallant and by no means melancholy band of pioneers going and returning, and learn something of their labours and success. Such deeds are as worthy of public notice as the benefactions of a Peabody, or the beneficence of the Brothers Cheeryble.

How comes it—but for this instrumentality, and the two missionaries, who are ever at work in the district—that there should have been gathered together here a church of some 150 members, "a church in the wilderness," which humanises many whom it does not Christianise, and is a blessing to the whole neighbourhood, leavening the whole mass?

But we have not exhausted the list of agencies at Nichol-street. There is a day ragged-school, of which some 200 children who cannot pay enjoy the advantages, conducted by paid teachers, and a sewing-class, a clothing fund, library, &c. The missionaries go from house to house—the children often paving the way to the parents' hearts—and conduct special meetings for prayer and other purposes. There is in short all the usual machinery of a Mission,

annual treats and excursions included. We might also, did space permit, say something of judicious plans for promoting tidiness, and making home attractive, and bringing many good qualities into play by cultivating a love of flowers. All this work which goes towards the direct training of some 1,330 children—it is believed less directly to influence treble that number of persons, and indirectly many more—involves an ordinary expenditure of about 250*l.* a year, which is cheerfully met by the friends at Islington. There is still nearly 1,000*l.* to be paid for the erection of the new ragged-school referred to, and the deacons of Union Chapel justly think themselves warranted "in asking help from the benevolent outside their own church," for that special object. We hope they will largely secure it. Their corps of volunteer teachers are certainly entitled to that recognition of their services.

What is the "Poor Man's Church" about in this district? may be asked. It is only right to say that the Rector of Bethnal-green, the Rev. Septimus Hansard, who is great in day and adult schools, most heartily acknowledges the blessed results of the Nichol-street institution, and encourages it. Shoreditch Church is not far off, but the influence of its clergy among the poor is not believed to be very extensive, and there is a church near by, at Frisars' Mount, with some comparatively small schools attached. That is all, in a district teeming with life. If any one should fear to poach on another's ground, let him plant himself in any one street in the district, and see if he interferes with the labour of others. Aye, he may take a wider range—from Shoreditch to Victoria Park, through countless streets of mean and dingy houses, crowded with people, some of whom just keep their heads above the pauper level, while almost as many more sink below it—and he will search far and wide before he finds many spots where he would interfere with Churchman or Dissenter, Puseyite or Evangelical, Wesleyan or Catholic. Naught but Divine interposition, or such agencies as that of Nichol-street, supplemented by social and sanitary reforms, seem likely to cope with the heathenism, squalor, and indifference of this vast population of East London.

We are told that as many as sixty and seventy of Mr. Allen's young people are away from their seats on Sunday evening engaged in such blessed labours, and that their pastor bids them "God-speed." Is every minister of our churches like-minded? We don't think his congregation suffers—certainly not his church, if we are to believe Mr. Henry Spicer, the senior deacon of Union Chapel, and a veteran promoter of these enterprises, who the other day publicly declared his belief that a new and more elevated spiritual life had been diffused over that Christian community since they had recognised their duty towards their near and distant neighbours, who are perishing for lack of knowledge of a God and a Saviour.

ISLINGTON CHAPEL.—The first service in connection with the reopening of this well-known place of worship took place on Friday evening week, when the Rev. Newman Hall, of Surrey Chapel, preached from the 6th verse of the 72nd Psalm. The discourse, which was admirably adapted to the occasion, was listened to with great interest by the immense congregation assembled, every seat being occupied, the aisles thronged, the vestry filled, and in fact every available space within the building turned to account. Many ministers and deacons from adjoining chapels assisted at the collection, to evince their entire sympathy with the friends at Islington. The interior of the chapel has been painted and decorated in an extremely chaste manner, the prevailing colours being pale green and mauve: the pulpit is of a delicate French white, with gold mouldings, all in excellent taste. The old-fashioned method of lighting the chapel has been improved and modernised. On Sunday week the services were continued. The chapel was crowded in the morning, when the Rev. Alexander Raleigh, D.D., preached. And in the evening the Rev. Francis Tucker occupied the pulpit, and preached to a large congregation. The collections at all three services amounted to upwards of 64*l.* towards the expenditure incurred in the necessary repairs and decorations, which amount to nearly 400*l.* On Sunday last the Rev. Mark Wilks preached in the morning, and the Rev. W. Macfie in the evening.

MILTON-YARD RAGGED SCHOOL.—The annual meeting of this school was held on Thursday evening last, in the large schoolroom in Cloudesley-street, Liverpool-road. About 400 ladies and gentlemen sat down to tea at half-past six. The Earl of Shaftesbury having taken the chair, the honorary secretary (Mr. C. Kemp) read the report, which stated that the attendance at the evening school is now about the largest in London. Nearly fifty boys and a few girls have been got into various places during the last twelve months, and with the exception of one, they are giving the greatest satisfaction. Seven boys who have kept their places for twelve months were presented by his lordship with 7*s.* 6*d.* and a prize card; this card bore the signature of his lordship, and also of Mr.

Gent, of the Ragged School Union, testifying that the lads had been in their employment for twelve months, and their various employers giving them good characters. Several gentlemen addressed the meeting.

MIDNIGHT MEETING MOVEMENT.—The annual meeting of the friends and supporters of this movement was held on Thursday night in the hall connected with the Monthly Tract Society, Red Lion-square. In the absence of Lord Calthorpe, who was to have presided, Mr. F. J. Hughes, a member of the legal profession, was called to the chair, and proceedings having been opened with prayer, the Rev. Mr. Madgevin read an outline of the report of the committee for the past year. Former reports had gone fully into the causes and extent of the so-called social evil, and the present document supplies some interesting details of the kindly and successful efforts that have been made for its mitigation. During the past year nineteen meetings were held in various parts of the metropolis, at which addresses were delivered by ministers and others to audiences numbering in the aggregate over 1,500 unfortunate. From amongst these 120 had been sent to homes through the direct agency of the society's office; but the committee are fully persuaded that the direct influence of the society had led many to homes of reclamation without coming first to the office, as the total number rescued in London alone considerably exceeded 1,500. Unhappily, however, it was estimated that nearly 1,000 applications had been rejected from the want of means to afford relief at the several institutions with which the society was affiliated, such as the Rescue Society, with its twelve homes, and the London Preventative and Reformatory, with its five homes. Similar movements are making in most of the large towns throughout the country, including Hull, Exeter, Liverpool, Manchester, Portsmouth, Plymouth, Nottingham, Glasgow, and at Aldershot, while increased efforts in the same direction are to be made in the west and south of London, not only with the view of rescuing fallen women, but also of bringing the influence of the society to bear upon young men with reference to the violation of the seventh commandment. Having pointed out that the recent sanitary measures in the army only mitigate its effects without grappling with the cause of the evil, the report proceeds to deal with the subject of infanticide, and expresses an opinion that remedial measures on this head will avail but little until seduction is treated as a criminal offence. The subscriptions and other receipts for the past year amounted to 1,245*l.* odd, and the expenditure of all kinds had left a balance in hand of 58*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*, but claims have yet to come in which will more than absorb that sum. The report having been passed, the meeting, which was preceded by a tea-party, was addressed by several friends of the movement, both lay and clerical.

BAPTIST CHAPEL, FISHERGATE, PRESTON.—The Rev. John Odell, of Dublin, has accepted the cordial and united invitation of the said church and congregation to become its pastor, and commences his ministerial duties on the first Sunday in May.

DUNDEE.—Mr. George Thompson, senior student of Rotherham College, has cordially accepted a pressing invitation to become the pastor of Castle-street Church, Dundee, vacant by the death of the Rev. David Johnson.

EWELL.—Although this beautiful village is but a few miles from London, until recently it has been destitute of any place of worship for Nonconformists. By the efforts of J. C. Sharpe, Esq., a Congregational church has just been erected. The church is a nice specimen of Gothic architecture, and has been fitted up with an organ and everything necessary for worship. The attendance at the first services, which were conducted by the Revs. J. C. Gallaway, M.A., T. W. Aveling, S. Pearson, G. F. Newman, and the ministers of the neighbourhood, has been such as to greatly cheer Mr. Sharpe and his friends.

LEICESTER.—NEW BAPTIST CHAPEL.—For several years past, the desirableness of extending the cause of Nonconformity, and of further providing for the religious instruction of the increasing population of this prosperous town, by the erection of a new chapel in connection with the Baptist denomination, has been deeply felt by various gentlemen. This impression has at length assumed the shape of a definite undertaking. Negotiations with the corporation for the purchase of a plot of ground in an eligible situation, are now progressing, with every prospect of success. Although the character of the building is not yet definitely determined, it is intended that it shall be built according to the best style of modern chapel architecture. Already between three and four thousand pounds are promised towards the cost of the erection.

THE WELSH CALVINISTIC METHODISTS OF LIVERPOOL have just opened a splendid new chapel in Clarence-street, which is to take the place of a smaller one in Pall-mall. The first service was occupied by the delivery of a very eloquent and pathetic sermon by the Rev. Henry Rees; the remaining services by Dr. M'Leod, of Liverpool; Dr. Edwards, of Bala; and Mr. Thomas, of Jewin-crescent, London. A few weeks previous to the above services the congregation at Bedford-street held a meeting to raise subscriptions towards their intended new chapel in Prince's-road, from designs by a Liverpool firm, when near 6,000*l.* were raised after a stirring and eloquent address by the Rev. Henry Rees. This chapel is expected to be the most costly and magnificent one belonging to the connexion.

COLCHESTER.—A tea-meeting of the members of the church and congregation worshipping in the new church, Lion-walk, Colchester, was held last Friday evening, when the balance-sheet for the erection of the

church was read. It appeared that the sum of £4,180l. had been raised by the congregation and friends since September, 1862, a little less than two years and a-half ago. This left a debt of about 2,000l. on the building. The object of the meeting was to devise some plan for the gradual extinction of the debt. The subject was fully discussed, and it was thought that, after such liberality on the part of the subscribers, it would be imposing upon their generosity to ask for any large sums at the present time. It was therefore proposed, and unanimously adopted by the meeting, that the weekly offering should be tried during the forthcoming year, with a view to raise 500l. by the 25th of March, 1866. The friends present most cheerfully responded to the proposition, and 150 subscribers were at once obtained as weekly contributors. It is confidently expected that more than the sum proposed will be realised, at many friends were unable to attend the meeting who had expressed their intention to add their names to the list. A vote of thanks was passed to the secretary for the time and attention he had devoted to the committee during the erection, &c., of the building, which was duly acknowledged, and the meeting separated, highly pleased with the result, and the harmony that had characterised all the proceedings.

WARE, HERTS.—An interesting meeting was held last week to take leave of the Rev. Dr. Leask, whose ministry at Maberly Chapel, Ball's-pond-road, commences on Sunday next. About three hundred persons were present at the meeting at Ware, including the members of Dr. Leask's church and congregation, and Churchmen, Congregationalists, Wesleyans, and other residents in Ware, Hertford, and other places in the neighbourhood. After tea the chair was taken by Mr. J. T. Hannum, who read letters from the Rev. H. R. Reynolds, President of Cheshunt College, and several other ministers, who spoke in the most affectionate terms of Dr. Leask, expressing the deepest regret that circumstances over which they had no control prevented them from attending. The chairman then introduced Mr. Sams, one of the deacons of High-street Chapel, who in a few earnest and affectionate words expressed the feelings of the church in separating from their pastor, and then presented to Dr. Leask a purse of thirty-seven guineas as a small token of the love of his congregation and friends. After this, two young girls belonging to Mrs. Leask's Sabbath-school class, advanced to the table, and timidly presented to her a handsome tea-pot and stand, purchased with the subscriptions of the class. Dr. Leask having appropriately acknowledged these unexpected gifts of affection, the meeting was subsequently addressed by the chairman, and by the Revs. J. Vine, J. W. Walker, H. Maidment, W. Murray, R. H. Craig, and W. Saunders (Wesleyan); by Messrs. McCall and Croft, who had been sent as a deputation from Cheshunt College, and by Mr. Errington. Dr. Leask concluded the proceedings by an affectionate farewell address.

HULL AND EAST RIDING CONGREGATIONAL ASSOCIATION.—During the week the spring meeting of this auxiliary to the Congregational Home Missionary Society has taken place, when the following services have been held:—On Wednesday evening a devotional service was held in Fish-street Chapel, and addresses were delivered by the Rev. W. White, of Pocklington. On Thursday morning the business meeting was held at Hope-street Chapel. There was a large attendance of delegates. In the evening the annual public meeting was held in Salem Chapel. William Irving, Esq., presided, and the body of the chapel was pretty well filled. The Rev. J. Sibree read the general report, after which the financial report was read by the chairman. It was incomplete, but so far showed that the balance due to the treasurer, which last year was 117.4s. 4d., amounted this year to 92. odd.—The Rev. R. A. Redford, LL.B., was then called on to read a paper on "The signs of the times in relation to Congregational churches." One sign which the rev. gentleman especially noticed was the progress of the principle of co-operation, not merely in secular, but also in spiritual matters. It was alleged, as a great defect in their system, that the ministers were dependent on the people. It was better to be so than for the minister to be dependent on himself, or on indifferent third persons. In some cases ministers suffer, in others the people suffer; and so it must be in this world. As to the position and prospects of Congregationalism, he feared that they sometimes thought too much of their freedom and too little of their practical divisions. As to their influence, it was not decreasing but increasing. Their chapels were multiplying in number throughout the country. Addresses were delivered on the subject by the Revs. A. Dickinson (Bridlington), J. Wishart (Swanland), and — Menzies (South Cave). The Rev. E. Jukes announced the formation of the "Hull and East Riding Chapel-building Society," for the building of new Congregational chapels in the Riding, and for the pulling down and rebuilding of old and unsightly chapels in the district. A provisional committee has been appointed, and sooner or later an appeal would be issued to their friends in the Riding for support. The proceedings concluded with a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding.—*Hull Packet*.

LEICESTER—BOND-STREET CHAPEL.—A public tea-meeting was held in the upper and lower schoolrooms attached to Bond-street Chapel on Tuesday evening last, as a *finale* to the proceedings associated with the reopening of that place of worship. The two rooms were decorated for the occasion with great taste by ladies of the congregation, there being suitable mottoes in flowers placed on the walls, evergreens in festoons, and artificial flowers made for the ornamentation of the tea-tables. Several ministers of the town and

county were present, including the Rev. J. P. Mursell, Rev. T. Mays, Rev. J. J. Goadby, Rev. J. A. Picton, Rev. W. Woods, and Rev. G. E. Cecil. When tea had been taken the party left the school-rooms to assemble in the chapel adjoining, where a large audience collected; and the ministers and others having taken their places on the platform, the Rev. Johnson Barker was called to the chair, and opened the proceedings by giving an interesting account of the progressive development of the Independent body in Leicester, from the period when they used to worship at each other's houses, at the beginning of the present century, up to the present, when they possessed four spacious chapels. The Rev. J. A. Picton followed with some able remarks, in the course of which he urged upon Nonconformists to be true to their position, and not to submit to the disabilities under which they at present laboured, and claimed for them the right of equal admission into the Universities. The Rev. J. J. Goadby congratulated the pastor and the congregation of that place of worship on having effected the alterations without any accident, and concluded by an allusion to the beautiful and attractive appearance of the chapel. The Rev. Mr. Cecil made some practical observations upon the duty of ministers to the outlying masses of the population, thousands of whom, he said, never attended a place of worship at all, and urged that special efforts should be made to introduce the Gospel into the cottages of the poor. Mr. Davenport, one of the deacons of the church, and the Rev. T. Mays, of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, having addressed the meeting, and the Rev. W. Woods having briefly congratulated the congregation on the success of their efforts, the Rev. J. P. Mursell eulogised the chairman, congregation, and teachers in the Sunday-schools, upon the diligence which they had brought to their work, and the success that had followed their labours. He said he entertained the highest respect for those gentlemen and ladies who consecrated their time and talents to so great a work as that involved in Sunday-school teaching. It was a scene of moral beauty and grandeur which was not to be seen in any other land. The proceedings then terminated, it being about half-past nine o'clock.—*Leicester Chronicle*.

Correspondence.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I have received a copy of the *Nonconformist* containing some very courteous strictures on a letter of mine in the *Spectator*. As it appears that I have very greatly misconceived and misrepresented the opinions of the Liberation Society, I am bound to make my apology. I have no right to complain that you have misconceived as entirely my opinions. You have explained that there is a hopeless obscurity in my style which may excuse any amount of confusion respecting my meaning, even if you are able by a stretch of charity to give me credit for having a meaning.

I am rejoiced to learn that the Liberation Society recognises the sacredness and godliness of a nation as strongly as any old Puritan or Covenanter could recognise it. I was utterly mistaken, it seems, in supposing that it regards religious denominations as having a more sacred or more godly character than the whole body over which Queen Victoria reigns. I cannot express the satisfaction which I feel in being set right on this point, nor how strongly I desire that the Liberation Society should make an effort to remove an impression respecting its doctrine which I am satisfied prevails very widely among Nonconformists as well as Conformists.

What the Society really maintains, if I understand you, is that the "State or civil government does not represent the nation for all purposes." To my great surprise, I perceive that I have been unconsciously defending the maxim of the Society all my life. My reason for protesting against the separation of Church and State is precisely that I do not think either the civil power or the spiritual power can "represent the nation for all purposes"; that they are the two essential elements in every nation, neither of which can work happily or safely if it exists apart from the other, or usurps the functions of the other. If the State attempts to deal with sins instead of with crimes, if it tries by its own force to educate a country instead of seeking to evoke all the spiritual force of the country for that purpose, it departs, I conceive, from its appointed task, and undertakes a task for which it is not competent. If ecclesiastics who might act on the conscience and spirit of a nation, which legislators and judges cannot reach, abandon that glorious occupation that they may play at holding courts, "overturing" about the condemnation of books, passing sentences upon their brethren, I think they will show, by violations of justice which are ridiculous in the sight of men, odious in the sight of God, how entirely they have mistaken the nature of the stewardship which was entrusted to them.

You say that I have been unrighteous in speaking of an "alliance" between the Bishop of Capetown and the Liberation Society. Since I denied the fact of any formal alliance between Church and State, while I was pleading for a necessary union between them, as involved in the existence of a nation, I do not suppose any reader will have fancied that I gave another sense to the word "alliance" in this passage. I did not dream of a compact between the Bishop and the Society; I did think they were working towards a common end. I thought both were, in their different ways, desiring to relieve

ecclesiastics, of whatever school or denomination, from a restraint which, it seems to me, is favourable to the peace of the land and to the freedom of thought. The State hinders Churchmen of all schools from persecuting each other outwardly, whatever they may do secretly. The Bishop of Capetown says this power of the State over ecclesiastics is a great tyranny; the Liberation Society, I had imagined, said the same thing. I described them, therefore, as allies. I said the alliance was "unholy," because I apprehend that if we are all let loose to tear each other in pieces, or even if each denomination has the freedom to perform its little tyrannies within its own sphere, we shall do a number of acts which the New Testament pronounces most "unholy." I do not say that it may not be God's will that we should be left, like the sects in Jerusalem, to show how far religious fury can go, or how much it can defy the great Reconciler; I do not say that a persecution may not be needful for our purification. But I will not give to the glorious name of "Freedom" the accursed signification which I see that some Churchmen are giving it. "Freedom to beat one's own nigger," freedom to persecute one's own ministers, is not the freedom for which the ancestors whom the Liberation Society venerate, fought and bled. In their hour of prosperity that may have appeared to them the natural, the only proper, interpretation of the word. But it was in their hours of adversity, when they were asking for freedom to breathe and think, to believe and hope in God, that they did any service to mankind. If the Liberation Society is seeking that freedom for the Church, I own that it is not in alliance with the impugnors of State authority among us.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

F. D. MAURICE.

P.S. Perhaps you will allow me to mention that I received some weeks ago a pamphlet, forwarded also to a number of other clergymen, which contained a report of the debate in the House of Lords last summer on Lord Houghton's motion respecting the power of Convocation to pronounce a sentence on books. That pamphlet was introduced by a preface, which, if it did not proceed officially from the Liberation Society, certainly appeared to express its sentiments. The writer of the preface expressed much admiration of Dr. Pusey's letter "to those who love God and His truth," and exhorted him to go on manfully in the course to which the letter committed him. Now the avowed object of Dr. Pusey is to crush the liberty of thought which he deems that the State Tribunal has vindicated for the clergy. It cannot be said that he wishes to hold us by the Articles to which we have subscribed. He is not satisfied with those Articles, not with the severest interpretation which impartial men can give of them. He would throw us upon the unwritten opinion or tradition of the Church for eighteen centuries, that opinion or tradition from which fixed Articles were the deliverance. With purposes such as these, the Nonconformist champion expressed his sympathy. He would liberate us from the bondage of not being liable to prosecution for offences which no written law condemns, before tribunals consisting of persons who have already passed sentence upon us. Such freedom is so exceedingly like what I have been used to call tyranny, that I cannot—it may be from the obscurity of intellect which you impute to me—perceive the difference.

THE LOCK-OUT IN THE IRON TRADE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In every department of human activity, when ever any particular object is desired to be attained, there is a tendency to lose sight of the fundamental principles upon which the operations of the entire department depend, and to resort to means which, however suited to the attainment of the particular object, are inconsistent with first principles; and the ultimate results are always evil. Illustrations of this are but too abundant in the history of human affairs. In religion, in politics, in trade, these errors and their consequent evils fill many pages of the volume of history, and are continually recurring. In religion men have resorted to persecution as a means of securing assent to certain dogmas, or the maintenance of certain forms of worship; but if truth is to be received as a living reality, proceeding from a living God, and worship of Him is to be "in spirit and in truth," then, however successful torture may have been in compelling assent, or distress-warrants in enforcing payment, religion has not been advanced by such means, because those expedients are at variance with the fundamental principles of religion. And then, as to the evil results: surely history, from the time of the stoning of Stephen down to the granting of the last Church-rate, records enough of evil to convince anyone that torture hath no fellowship with truth, nor warrants with worship. In politics, how often have expedients, well calculated to attain certain objects, been productive of the direst evils, because those expedients have been opposed to the first principles of government? A constitutional monarch has levied taxes on his own authority, regardless of the fundamental principle that government is by the consent of the majority for the good of all. No doubt he brought money to his coffers, but he brought about a revolution too. In thus "raising the wind" he unwittingly raised a whirlwind, and perished in the storm. In trade, the efforts of statesmen, both in this and other countries, for more than a quarter of a century, have been directed to the reversing of the policy of preceding generations, which, being at variance with the natural and fundamental principle of perfect freedom of intercommunication and exchange, had brought about an accumulation of evils, and stood in the way of the progress and well-being of mankind. Yet doubtless every law which "protected" the interests of various industries was regarded as right and proper by those whose trade was so "protected." But enough of reference to the past. We have a great present evil which has, I venture to assert, been brought

about by similar disregard of fundamental principles, and adoption of shortsighted expedients.

It is singular, however, that although, when the cry of "Free Trade and no Monopoly" was so popular twenty years ago, no portion of the community so heartily embraced the principle as the traders and workers; yet since they succeeded in compelling the legislature to sweep away the chief of those artificial expedients of bygone years which stood opposed to the natural principles of trade, no class has acted so inconsistently with those principles. The growing tendency to form trades' unions and associations of employers in various industrial departments, is a justification of this statement; and the noteworthy fact that the relations between the employers and the employed, in most businesses where these unions and associations are in operation, are subject to more disturbance than where the entire operations of the business are carried on between masters and customers and masters and men as individuals, seems to indicate that such combinations are not in accordance with sound commercial principles.

The letter which the South Staffordshire Ironmasters' Association sent forth to the world informs us that "A local association of some of the masters, but by no means comprehending all, had existed for very many years in South Staffordshire for the purpose of regulating to some extent prices of particular descriptions of iron," &c., &c. This association has its meetings at regular intervals, and "fixes" the prices of iron until its next meeting. The prices of iron have ruled the rates of ironworkers' wages; and so the ironworkers have imitated their masters by forming unions to regulate the rates of wages themselves. But are not these "associations" and "unions" inconsistent with the natural freedom of trade? We have only to suppose this "local association" to become national, and actually "comprehending all," and then, with its prices fixed every quarter day, where would free trade in iron be? Just in proportion to the comprehensiveness of the association and the integrity with which every member held to the prices fixed at the quarterly meeting, would be the injustice perpetrated upon the public—a monopoly more injurious to the country generally than was ever enjoyed by the producers of wool and corn. And so with unions to regulate the rates of wages and conditions of labour. But the "Honorary Secretary to the South Staffordshire Ironmasters' Association" has faithfully as well as modestly stated it—it is "a local association of some of the masters, but by no means comprehending all." It is hard to say whether the announcements from time to time of the decisions of this association that the price of iron is to be reduced, to remain stationary, or to be advanced, remind one most of the mock-majesty of King Canute in commanding the sea to retire, or of the simple folly of Dame Partington in resisting the flow of the Atlantic with her mop; but experience proves that the efforts of the ironmasters in controlling the operations of natural laws, whilst they may have been more mischievous, have been no more effectual, than those of the Danish King or the ancient Dame. It is the same with the men as with the masters; they have not hitherto succeeded in effecting so much evil, for want of more perfect organisation. But now both parties have provoked each other to greater efforts to more thoroughly organise themselves. Never were unions more united, nor combinations more extensive; and never was there such a disastrous state of things in the iron trade as a general "Lock-out." Just in proportion to the perfection of these artificial arrangements, is the extent and intensity of the evil produced: the violation of the natural and therefore fundamental principles of trade is more extensive and thorough than heretofore, and therefore the evil is more widely and severely felt.

"How long will the 'Lock-out' continue?" is the anxious inquiry from day to day. Each party seems to be gathering up its strength to compel the other to give up the present contest. But neither the speeches that are made by the leaders of the workmen, nor the long letter of the ironmasters above quoted from, discuss the matter upon any well-defined principle. They are for the most part narratives of the rise and fall of wages during the past few years, accounts of the formation of unions, mutual recriminations, declarations of continued resistance, and so forth. Indeed it would be a great pity for the struggle to terminate through the exhaustion of either party's power of endurance. That would be like a terrible battle having been fought with no other result than a great amount of bloodshed on both sides. It would be leaving the machinery for mischief to be further strengthened for future use. A far better course to pursue would be for both parties to consider carefully whether it would not be best to break up the machinery of "associations" and "unions," and let the iron-trade be henceforth carried on as other industries are, without any artificial fixing of prices or rates of wages. Let there be perfect freedom of intercommunication and exchange. Let ironmasters compete with each other in the quality and price of their iron, and workmen do the same with their skill and their labour. It would be a sign and a pledge of a more healthy and prosperous because more consistent state of things, if every master were independent of every other master in the selling of his iron and the employing of labour, and every workman independent of every other workman in disposing of his labour to whom he pleased, and upon what terms he thought proper. With no artificial regulations there would be infinitely fewer chances of misunderstandings, strikes, and lock-outs; and the increasing number of "presidents," "secretaries," and members of "executive committees," &c., &c., would have to put their tongues to rest, and their hands to work. It might reasonably be expected that masters, who are as conversant with the science as with the art of trade, will be willing to abandon arts that are opposed to the science; and it is to be hoped that workmen will give themselves the trouble, for doubtless they have the ability, to think for themselves about the nature and natural results of their unions; and not be led by the plausible speeches and manner of a few ringing changes upon two or three phrases to catch their ears. "Union is strength," the proverb says, and so do the spouters; but what is the good of any one possessing the strength of an elephant, if he cannot use it with the sense of a man? "The right of combination," is a phrase now repeated as if it were a passage of Scripture; but without much thought as to circumstances under which combination is wise. The "right"? Yes; a man, if he wants to warm himself, has a "right" to break up all his furniture to keep up a fire with; and the means would well answer the purpose of warming him; but who would consider him wise in exercising

the "right," and thereby making his house desolate? Have we not in this "Lock-out" an instance of the "strength" acquired by "unions," and the wrongs inflicted by hundreds upon tens of thousands by the exercise of "the right of combination"? But where is the wisdom of these artificial means to regulate natural causes and effects? If a union of men should throw up their caps to applaud some expedient for regulating prices or wages, without seeing those caps come down again, they might then begin to think that natural laws can be set aside. But it is useless for us to try to invent or manufacture or divert the operation of natural principles. Infinite wisdom has established them in what we call "the nature of things." We add to our knowledge when we discover them: we manifest our wisdom if we conform to them: we err if we lose sight of them: we introduce confusion and entail evil consequences if we adopt expedients opposed to them: and in proportion to the extent and unitedness of combinations in employing those expedients, so will be eventually the disaster that will follow. It is a law in natural philosophy, that if the cause is removed, the effect ceases. The same law will apply to the present circumstances of the iron-trade; and if the end of this disaster should be a breaking up of the means which have caused it, the evil will have been overruled for good.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
ANONYMOUS.

Bilston, March 25, 1865.

THE FREE CHURCHES OF LONDON AND CHRISTIAN WORK.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—From the editorial note affixed to the letter on "The Free Churches of London and Christian Work" in your impression of the 15th, I gather that there would be no unwillingness on your part to be put in possession of the general opinion of the Christian public respecting the publication in a separate form of the articles now appearing in your valuable paper on the subject in question. As one engaged in kindred work, I beg to say that I should hail the issue with unmixed delight, as a boon to the churches of our land.

I think it would tend to make the *Nonconformist* more widely known and more extensively read; many who now patiently labour in the cause of God would derive encouragement; much latent energy would be aroused to a state of activity; and, besides this, the world would be placed in possession of a monument of Christian benevolence, and of the efficiency of the Voluntary principle—the fact of which many, of all creeds, will not be a little surprised to learn.

I am, yours truly,
JAMES BARKER.

2, Meridian-vale, Clifton, Bristol, March 22, 1865.

SURREY CHAPEL AND ITS WORK.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Your friendly notice of Surrey Chapel and its institutions in a recent number, must have convinced your readers that it would be a great injury to the inhabitants of South London if those institutions were to cease. There is the possibility of this. Mr. Rowland Hill bequeathed a portion of his estate for securing the freehold of Surrey Chapel. This sum, which had accumulated to about 8,000*l.*, has recently been declared by the Vice-Chancellor to be forfeited by Mortmain. It has gone to Hackney College, as residuary legatee, and the lease of Surrey Chapel advances to its close. Under these circumstances, burdened as the Surrey Chapel congregation are, a fund was nevertheless at once instituted and invested in trustees, for "the perpetuation of the work and worship of God as begun at Surrey Chapel by the Rev. Rowland Hill." But the necessities of the neighbourhood daily increase. More is needed to be done religiously and benevolently. While the money power of the congregation is ever diminishing, through the tendency to live in the suburbs, the demands on them increase. Are we to make no provision for the falling in of the lease? But ought we to be crippled in our present operations amongst the masses of the ignorant and poor around us? We must not, we dare not, let thought for the future interfere with the demands of the present. But in addition to what was done before, we have a weekly penny offering for the Rowland Hill fund. But the progress is slow towards 20,000*l.*, the least that will be required. I write in hopes that some personal friends of Rowland Hill, from the affection and respect they cherish for his memory, will aid in securing the object which was so dear to his heart. Several gentlemen have commenced the subscription with 100*l.* each—among whom are Messrs. Morley, Crossley, Salt, and Joshua Wilson. May we not hope that others may follow their example? Amongst other memorials to good men dead and living, one to Rowland Hill cannot be thought inappropriate; while a memorial in this shape would not only be the most in accordance with his own wishes, but also help to perpetuate his own work in promoting the temporal and spiritual good of the great masses of the poor in the district where he laboured so long.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

NEWMAN HALL.

Surrey Chapel, March 25, 1865.

THE REV. DR. VAUGHAN.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—It is true, as stated in the last issue of your paper, that the committee of the Congregational Union has asked me to think of being one of a deputation to visit our churches in Canada. I am indebted to the committee for this expression of confidence, but I think it right to inform my friends that there is no probability of my crossing the Atlantic for the purpose mentioned, or for any other.

I am, Sir, your truly,

ROBERT VAUGHAN.

Regent's-park, March 27.

LONDON CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL-BUILDING SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—I beg in the name of the committee, and with all earnestness, to appeal to ministers, deacons, and to the Christian public generally, for immediate help for our society. It has had more or less to do with the building of fifty-five chapels already erected, and is pledged to important aid for ten in progress. The work in hand is enough to absorb the society's resources for the

next two years, but in addition to this there are no fewer than nine urgent applications before the committee for aid from its funds. To none of these can they vote either grant or loan until the exhausted funds are replenished. This society was the first specially established for church or for chapel-building, and has been a principal stimulus to the work within and beyond the denomination. There is much yet to be done by every section of the church. To supply fifty-eight per cent. of the population of London with church and chapel accommodation, 700 places of worship, each to hold 1,000 persons, should be erected. Are Congregationalists to confess themselves wearied, and yield this field of sacred enterprise to other denominations?

Yours truly,
E. SMITH, Treasurer.

WANT OF ZEAL IN HOME MISSIONARY WORK.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The charge has been made by one of the most earnest, devoted, and self-sacrificing servants of Christ, that our Free Churches are not doing their duty in spreading the Gospel through the length and breadth of our native land; that whilst large contributions are given annually, and special efforts are being made to convert the naked savage of the South Seas, or a Zulu African chief, thousands of men and women are living neglected within sight of our own doors "without God and without hope in the world." To erect churches in the metropolis of Madagascar, funds flow in so fast that the whole amount needed is subscribed before a single edifice is commenced, whilst to build twelve Mission Churches in the metropolis of England, although one noble-minded gentleman promised to contribute one third of the cost of each, the scheme seems likely to fall to the ground for want of support.

Oh shame upon us as Englishmen, Oh shame upon us as Christians, if that be the case!

Only last year, a somewhat similar offer, made with the same generous spirit by Sir Morton Peto, Bart., was lost because it did not receive adequate encouragement. Shall the same scene be enacted again? Shall the noble challenge of Mr. Samuel Morley be refused by the 150 Congregational churches in London? God grant that it may not be so!

It may be asked, whence comes this strange indifference to the cause of our fellow-countrymen? Some may say that it is our ministers; that if they were active and earnest, their people would be active and earnest too. Some may impute it to our periodicals, like the *Evangelical Magazine*; which might be a great power for good, but, unfortunately, from month to month, there is hardly ever an article inculcating the duty of active consecration to the cause of God, or a paper touching upon the hundred-and-one questions of interest which are agitating the church and the world. Granting that the *Evangelical Magazine* may do something to keep alive the religion of the self-indulgent man, who never leaves his fireside on errands of mercy, or quits his comfortable pew on a Sunday for the Lord's service, yet few, I think, will maintain that it is not infinitely surpassed as a power for good by such periodicals as the *Sunday at Home*, the *Sunday Magazine*, and last, not least, the *Sword and the Trowel*, edited by Mr. Spurgeon. But whatever the cause may be of the want of activity in our Free Churches, the blame cannot be laid at the door of our religious newspapers. I wish they had a much larger and wider circulation, I believe the facts they give us from week to week, with their comments thereon, are eminently calculated to stir up our churches to active service in the cause of our Lord and Master. Whilst acknowledging that many churches are doing their duty, as for instance those mentioned in the admirable articles lately published, and still appearing, in your journal, it is devoutly to be wished that such an activity and Christian zeal were displayed more generally throughout London and the country, and that all our Free Churches were seeking to evangelise the masses and bring the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ within reach of those who at present know not the truth.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
PRO DEO ET PATRIA.

Postscript.

Wednesday, March 29, 1865.

AMERICA.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE OF JEFFERSON DAVIS.

GREAT FLOOD IN PENNSYLVANIA.

(Per the City of Baltimore, *via* Crookhaven.)

NEW YORK, March 18 (Morning).

President Davis has addressed a message to the Confederate Congress, dated the 15th, which says:—

"Events have so materially affected the state of the country as to evince the necessity of further and more energetic legislation than that of November last. The country is environed with perils which it is our duty to calmly contemplate, and thus alone can the measures necessary to avert the threatened calamity be wisely devised and efficiently enforced. Richmond is now threatened, and in greater danger than heretofore during the war. Though the country is in danger, calamities will be averted and triumph secured by fortitude, courage, constancy, and endurance." The President urges the necessity of legislation to modify the militia law, and recommends the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act as almost indispensable to the successful conduct of the war. "With the prompt adoption of the measures recommended, and with the co-operation of the Congress and people in the execution of the laws and the defence of the country, the South may enter upon the coming campaign with cheerful confidence in the result. Lincoln will accept only abject and unconditional submission." President Davis proceeds to state that at the peace conference at Fortress Monroe the Confederate commissioners proposed to avoid Lincoln's objection to treat with the Confederate Government by a military convention of the commanding generals of both

armies. President Lincoln not accepting the suggestion, was afterwards requested to reconsider his conclusion upon the subject of the suspension of hostilities, which he agreed to do, but said after mature consideration he had determined it could not be done. Subsequently General Ord, commanding the Army of the James, requested an interview with General Longstreet. General Ord informed General Longstreet of the possibility of arriving at a satisfactory adjustment of the difficulties by means of a military convention. Lee would be granted an interview on the subject if he had authority to act. Lee, in consequence, wrote to Grant on March 2, proposing a conference on the subject, stating that he was vested with the requisite authority. General Grant replied that he had no authority to accede to the proposal for a conference. His power being only military, General Ord meant that an interview would not be refused on any subject on which General Grant could act. "No choice remains then," continues the President, "but to continue the contest to its final issue. The people of the Confederacy can have but little love for him who supposes it possible they would ever consent to purchase, at the cost of degradation and slavery, permission to live in a country garrisoned by their own negroes, and governed by officers sent by the conqueror to rule over them."

The President's Message announces that the commissioners and officers report that with 2,000,000. dols. in coin the armies of Virginia and North Carolina can be supplied for the remainder of the year. The measures adopted to raise the revenue, though liberal, being clearly inadequate to meet the arrears of debt and current expenditure, some degree of embarrassment in the management of the finances must continue to be felt. Men and supplies are needed to carry on the war successfully. Both are within the country sufficient to attain success. Sacrifices are still needed in prompt and resolute devotion, and men and money, for the achievement of independence.

President Davis urges the promptest legislation for the replenishment of the Treasury, and the modification of the impressment law, necessary for the purchase of supplies. He recommends Congress to devise measures for making coin within the Confederacy, available for supplying the army.

A steamer from Wilmington has reached Fayetteville, and announced that Sherman, returning, met a gunboat twenty miles below Fayetteville ascending the river. Johnston is reported to be concentrating at Raleigh, where it is supposed that Sherman will meet with his first serious resistance.

The *Herald* asserts that Sherman will move from Fayetteville on Goldsborough. Sherman's recent casualties are estimated at 1,000 killed, wounded, and missing, and that of the Confederates at 1,200 men.

Sherman has 3,000 prisoners and 4,000 white refugees.

Sherman has completely desolated the eastern portion of South Carolina, burning everything before him. Vast quantities of ammunition and artillery have been discovered at Charleston.

Sheridan reports on the 15th, from the Bridge of the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railway, that he crossed the South Anna after destroying the James River Canal as far east as Grockland, and marched up the Virginia Central Railroad at Talleville, destroying fifteen miles as far as Beaver Dam Station. He also destroyed a bridge over the South Anna River. The enemy lost three guns during an unsuccessful attempt to prevent him from burning the Central Railroad bridge over the South Anna.

Sheridan is reported to be moving on White House.

Unusual activity prevails in Lee's and Grant's armies. An important movement is expected.

The *New York Times* believes that the Confederates have some design upon the centre of Grant's lines near the Appomattox.

The *New York Herald* says rumours are current that President Davis has resigned. President Lincoln has delivered a speech in which he said, "We must now see the bottom of the enemy's resources. They will stand out as long as they can draw upon the last branch of their resources. I am rejoiced to see the end so near."

Mr. Bigelow has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary to France.

The *New York journals* generally confirm the report of President Lincoln having offered the French mission to Mr. James Gordon Bennett.

The New Jersey Senate has rejected the constitutional amendment.

The *New York Times* states that the Government is determined to withdraw from the navy 25,000 marines for land service.

NEW YORK, March 18 (12 30 p.m.).

A great freshet has occurred on the Susquehanna River, in Pennsylvania. Frightful destruction of property has been caused—bridges, railroads, dwellings, storehouses, and barns being swept away with the flood. The city of Harrisburg and Oil City are submerged. Great suffering prevails among private individuals. It is estimated that the damage done amounts to some millions of dollars.

CONTINENTAL NEWS.

M. Thiers yesterday delivered a speech on the Address in the Corps Législatif. He contended that on political liberty all other liberty depended—this, we presume, being in reply to M. Ollivier's preference for "individual and social liberty"—and he insisted that in all affairs of State the country ought to be consulted before, and not after, the questions had

been settled. He demanded that the press should be subjected merely to the ordinary law of the land, and that Ministerial responsibility should be established. He was ready to accede liberty to other countries if it were possible to give it to them; but he acknowledged that his great ambition was for the liberty of France. Finally M. Thiers declared that Providence was too just always to deprive of freedom a people who had done so much to give freedom to other nations. M. Thuillier replied on behalf of the Government to M. Thiers' speech, which he criticised very sharply. He declared that France did not want an English Parliamentary system and an English king who does not govern, but a sovereign who can wield the sword and rule the country.

NONCONFORMISTS AND PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS.

This morning a number of gentlemen connected with various denominations of Dissenters, met at breakfast at Radley's Hotel, to confer together on the course which should be pursued in respect to certain measures now before Parliament. Mr. Morley presided, and among those present were Mr. Gilpin, M.P. Rev. W. Brock, Mr. Miall, Rev. T. Binney, Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, Mr. James Heywood, Mr. W. Edwards, Rev. Newman Hall, Dr. Underhill, Mr. H. J. Preston, Mr. Carvell Williams, and Mr. J. Spicer. Mr. Göschen's Bill for abolishing ecclesiastical tests in the University of Oxford—the Bill which was last year nearly carried through the House of Commons by Mr. Dodson—having been considered, it was agreed that, while it fell short of the requirements of Dissenters, as regards the national universities, it should receive their best support. Steps were taken for the formation of a committee to deal with the Bill, and also to consider the Public Schools Bill, which was considered to afford a fair opportunity for asserting the right of Nonconformists to participate in the advantages afforded by the public schools of the country. The Lahore Bishopric Bill was another topic of conversation, and it was unanimously resolved that opposition should be offered to the endowment of additional English bishops at the expense of the natives of India. Mr. Monsell's Roman Catholic Oath Bill was also considered, and the conclusion arrived at was that English volunteers were bound to assist the Roman Catholic body in efforts to abolish oaths which, while they were of no practical value, were offensive to those who were called upon to take them.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords last evening there was no business of importance. Their Lordships adjourned at twenty minutes past five o'clock.

MR. GLADSTONE AND MR. ROEBUCK.

In the House of Commons, Mr. B. COCHRANE made a personal explanation. The other evening, when he brought forward the question of the Ionian Islands pensions, he made two statements—first, that when the Duke of Newcastle was Colonial Secretary, he advised those gentlemen who served in the Ionian Islands to accept the guarantee of their pensions from the Greek Government, because they could receive those pensions while they accepted, at the same time, appointments under the British Crown. The other statement was that that understanding with the Duke of Newcastle was violated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Both these statements were flatly contradicted by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. In proof of the truth of the first statement, Mr. Cochrane now read a letter from Mr. Colquhoun asserting that the Duke of Newcastle had given such advice and made such an agreement. As to the second, he quoted from a dispatch from M. Tricoupi. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER denied that he had impeached the veracity of Mr. Cochrane. He had simply said that his information was inaccurate. He maintained the same now. Mr. ROEBUCK, with much warmth, and after some interruption, was proceeding to say that the whole of this affair was a disgrace to the British Government, and especially to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, when he was stopped by the SPEAKER, who ruled that he was out of order.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER rose to speak, but Mr. Roebuck protested against his being allowed to do so, and the matter, after a sharp discussion of a few minutes' duration, dropped.

THE IRISH CHURCH.

Mr. DILLWYN moved,—

That in the opinion of this House the present position of the Irish Church Establishment is unsatisfactory, and calls for the early attention of her Majesty's Government.

The revenue of the Irish Church was 584,484/. The population of the country was 5,738,574, of whom 5,110,622 were left without religious provision, so far as the National Church was concerned. This, he thought, was eminently unsatisfactory. He was charged with being an enemy of the Church because he brought forward this motion; but it appeared to him that the principle he proposed would strengthen the Irish Church. The English Church rested on the good will of the people, but the Irish Church rested upon extraneous force. It had not

the consent of the people. They were for the most part Roman Catholics, and therefore the Church was not national. But it was called a missionary Church. Returns presented to the House, however, showed that from 1834 to 1861 there had been a greater reduction in the number of Protestants in the country than in the number of Catholics. The missionary character of the Church originated in the Society [for the Promotion of Irish Church Missions—a society which had, by efforts that were anything but honest, carried on a system of proselytism and bribery which members of the Established Church denounced. He quoted statements of the Rev. G. Webster to show that all these efforts had failed. With the present state of things, the Church in Ireland was an obstacle in the way of good government, and might be the means of promoting political corruption. The nepotism and corruption on the part of some of the highest dignitaries of the Church were appalling. He alluded to the enormous wealth of some of the prelates, and then proceeded to review the inquiries and legislation in respect to the Irish Church. He contended that it could not be defended as an institution. The Irish people felt keenly on the matter, and he hoped the House would show sympathy with them by passing his resolution.

The O'DONOGHUE seconded the motion. There could be no doubt the present state of the Irish Church was unsatisfactory. Amendment had been promised on several occasions, and it was still withheld until the Irish people had lost all confidence in the House of Commons. Backed by all the influence of the State for more than 300 years, the Established Church had failed to win the respect of the people. It was clear then, that some prompt and vigorous measure should be adopted in reference to the matter.

Sir G. GREY said the Government could not give its assent to the motion. It was ambiguously worded, but the speeches of its mover and seconder left no doubt of what was its object. So long as there was an Endowed Church in Ireland it would be unsatisfactory to them. The Government were not prepared to undertake the responsibility of proposing to Parliament a measure to give effect to the wishes of these gentlemen. He admitted that an Endowed Church which was the Church of a comparatively small minority was an evil which, as an abstract question, could not be defended. But the Irish Church was for centuries an existing institution, and the belief of the Government was that it could not be subverted without a revolution and all the evils that follow a revolution.

Mr. G. HARDY at some length defended the Irish Church. It was the lineal descendant of the Church founded in the year 432, and had the same rights and claims as the English Church. It was doing good work in Ireland. He did not believe the stories of the discontent it was said to create. It was an injury to no one, but a benefit to many, and he should never hesitate to support it.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER agreed with what had been said in praise of the manner in which the clergy of the Established Church in Ireland did their duty. But this did not touch the essence of the question. The Government were not able to support the motion; but the abstract truth of the most important part of the resolution, namely, that the Church of Ireland was in an unsatisfactory state, could not be denied. If the motion were agreed to, the Government ought to be prepared with a plan to deal with the difficulty, and they were not so prepared. The right hon. gentleman reviewed the position of the Church in Ireland, and declared it unsatisfactory. The first responsibility of any Legislature must be to adapt the laws and institutions of the country to the wants of the people, and it would not do to maintain an institution which was not beneficial because a Parliament dead and gone had thought it good. Notwithstanding the severity of the penal laws against Catholicism, Protestantism had not increased in proportion to Catholicism in Ireland. It was clear, then, that the Church had made no way. At some length he discussed the nature and extent of the endowments of the Church, and pointed out the difficulty there was in dealing with the question. It was impossible for the Government to give its assent to the motion, and thereby make a promise which it would be wholly out of its power to redeem.

Mr. WHITESIDE discussed the motives which had led to this resolution being proposed, and contended that it was desired to confiscate the property of the Irish Church. He specially attacked Mr. Gladstone, whose speech, he said, meant that they were to get rid of the Irish Church as soon as possible.

Mr. G. DUFF, Mr. Ogan, and Mr. P. Urquhart spoke in support of the motion, and Sir F. Heygate against it.

Mr. GÖSCHEN moved the adjournment of the debate, which, after a few words from Lord PALMERSTON, was carried by 221 votes to 106. The debate was adjourned to the 2nd of May.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes to one o'clock.

The Queen held a reception at Buckingham Palace yesterday afternoon. King Leopold will remain at Buckingham Palace for a few days.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

Fresh up to our market to-day, the arrivals of English wheat were very moderate, and the general condition of the produce was but middling. The trade for all qualities was firm, and Monday's advance in the quotations was well supported, the bulk of the supply having at the close of business been disposed of at that day's improvement in prices.

TO ADVERTISERS

The Terms for Advertising in *THE NONCONFORMIST* are as follows:—

One Line A Shilling.
Each additional Line Sixpence.

There are, on an average, eight words in a line.

Advertisers of all classes will find *THE NONCONFORMIST* a valuable Medium for their Announcements.

THE NONCONFORMIST is registered for transmission abroad. Published by ARTHUR MIALI (to whom it is requested that all Post-office Orders may be made payable), 18, Boulevard, Fleet-street, E.C.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Stamped Copies are supplied through the Post-office, direct from the Publishing-office, or by any News Agent, on the following terms, for payment in advance:—

	s.	d.
Per Quarter	0	6
Half-year	0	13
Year	1	0

Unstamped Copies may be had at the Railway Stations, and of the Local Booksellers and News Agents; but an unstamped copy sent by post must have a penny postage stamp affixed each time of transmission.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * We have received a letter from the Committee of the London Congregational Chapel-building Society which, though an appeal for money, we insert gratis in the body of our paper, with the exception of the postscript. It may be regarded as our contribution—the last in this shape—towards the object which the society have in view. We believe this is the third time within a year that we have been asked to insert gratuitously similar appeals from the same society. We therefore embrace the opportunity of saying a word in reference to this growing tendency to make use of the columns of our own, in common with other newspapers of the same class, for such objects without payment. Many of our religious societies, chapel managers, and not a few private individuals, seem to have forgotten the maxim, "Live and let live." Is it quite fair or reasonable to ask the gratuitous use of a medium of publicity, which it has cost money and mental toil to establish, and which is entirely sustained by private enterprise? Ought societies to seek to make a miserable profit out of our paper in this indirect and unacknowledged way? If they did not think this channel for communicating with a portion of the public a desirable one, they would not, we presume, send to us. Surely then such appeals are worth to them the cost of an advertisement; and it seems to us quite as reasonable to expect the printer to print gratis the circulars of societies, or the Post Office to carry them for nothing, or the secretary and clerks to be honorary officers, as that newspapers, the income of which largely depends upon advertisements, should be frequently and silently misused for religious and philanthropic objects. Newspapers really cannot live on such terms. It seems almost necessary to state that we enjoy no subvention from the Government—no rates-in-aid from any society or institution whatever. We trust our contemporaries will unite with us in this protest against a growing practice which disregards the equitable rules of trade, and effects a small economy at our joint expense.

"J. P. D." Gibraltar.—P. O. O. received for 11. 13s., being half-yearly subscription to *Nonconformist* (13s.) and 11. for the Liberation Society.

"S. M.," Sandhurst, Victoria.—P. O. O. for 26s. received, with thanks.

"R. W. R. L."—2s. in postage stamps received for the National Freedman's Relief Association.

* * Subscribers and Advertisers are respectfully informed that the payment of sums exceeding five shillings cannot be received in postage stamps.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1865.

SUMMARY.

THE great lock-out is, we are happy to report, practically at an end. The northern ironworkers, who disapproved from the first of the course pursued by their Staffordshire fellow-workmen, have pledged themselves not to support, either directly or indirectly, the North Staffordshire men during the continuance of the present dispute, and also to sever all connection between their Union and that of the Midland Counties. The Staffordshire ironworkers have also agreed to meet their masters this day, under Lord Lichfield's presidency, and are ready to agree that the question of the wages of the "puddlers" shall be settled by arbitration after the termination of the lock-out. Before the present week is out it is probable the iron-trade will have resumed its wonted activity.

The debates on the Address in the French Corps Législatif commenced on Monday. M. Ollivier, who has for some time shown a disposition to separate from the regular Opposition, made a speech in which he declared his preference for social and individual liberty to political

liberty, but asked for greater freedom for the press, and Ministerial responsibility. He strongly urged the Government to liberal concessions, and promised his energetic support if that policy should be pursued. M. Thiers, who spoke yesterday, declared that political liberty ought to precede administrative reforms, and said that in all affairs of state the country should be consulted before, and not after, matters had been settled. In reply to the ex-Minister, M. Thuillier, an Imperialist orator, denied that a Parliamentary form of Government was suited to France, which required a Sovereign who governed as well as reigned. The Opposition have a formidable list of democratic amendments to propose, and the Ultramontane section of the Chamber are to distinctly proclaim the urgency of maintaining the territorial rights of the Pope.

A crisis in Prussian politics seems impending. The overwhelming majority of the Chamber of Deputies still refuse to yield on the military question, or to vote the budget till their demands are listened to. The Minister of War has, therefore, been instructed to inform the House that, if it continues obstinate, "the question will no longer be one of rights, but of existence." In other words, the constitution will be abolished by the King. What effect this declaration has produced on the Deputies we are not told. The Prussian Government have, however, other difficulties to try them—the Federal Diet having decided, by nine to six votes, to discuss formally the proposal of Bavaria in favour of the claims of the Duke of Augustenburg to the Duchies. But the Berlin Cabinet seems to care very little for the decisions of the Diet.

By a majority of 91 to 33 the Canadian House of Representatives has adopted the Confederation scheme. It must be confessed that the minority is rather large, considering how cordially the proposal was at first received in Canada. This vote will, it is feared, encourage the Legislatures both of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia to carry out their expected resolution of rejecting the terms of union. In prospect of this decision, Mr. Cardwell was asked the other evening by Lord Robert Cecil whether any measure would be proposed for coercing the dissentients, but the Colonial Minister wisely forbore to answer the question, simply expressing, on behalf of the Government, the hope that the scheme would be adopted by the various Provincial Legislatures; and his perfect readiness, if it should be so adopted, to propose to Parliament the measures necessary to carry it into effect.

A remarkable telegraphic feat performed last week does not seem to have excited the attention it deserves. On Friday last news from Australia was received by direct overland telegraph from Ceylon of Feb. 24—only a month old. An additional week or ten days has been annihilated in the time of communication with the Antipodes, which will be further shortened when the line through Asia Minor is properly worked. Now that half the distance to Australia has been bridged over by the electric wire, the completion of the other moiety does not appear a very visionary scheme.

UNION CHARGEABILITY BILL.

WHEN Mr. Villiers introduced to the House of Commons his Bill for making the area of charge for the relief of the poor coincide with the area of managing that relief, we gave a short account of its chief provisions, and pointed out some of the more important benefits which they were likely to secure. The general scope of the measure is to equalise in every Poor-law Union the rates paid by the several parishes of which the Union consists for the support of those who are unable, from whatever cause, to support themselves. At present each of the parishes pays an equal share in respect of about half the entire amount expended upon the poor, or upon the management of their relief, within the area of the Union—to the other half each parish contributes a quota according to the number of paupers resident within its bounds, and, of course, the charge falls very unevenly upon different and sometimes contiguous parishes. The whole land of one parish may be owned by a single proprietor, or by two or three—in which case, the effect of the existing system is, the clearing the entire parish of all, or as nearly all as possible, of the cottage accommodation which by giving residence to labourers entails a liability of poor-rates in proportion to the number of the destitute. In the next parish, containing, perhaps a small town, and in which the ownership of the land is considerably subdivided, money is to be made by running up a lot of cheap tenements for which extortionate rents may be obtained, and which, in consequence of scarcity of house room elsewhere, are overcrowded with tenants who divide between three or four families the rooms which would not

have been too many for one. This parish is also charged for its resident poor—and, whereas in the close parish sixpence a pound on the assessment may be all that is required, in the open parish six shillings a pound upon an equivalent assessment may be not at all uncommon. Mr. Villiers' Bill, read a second time on Monday night, after a long debate, and a large majority in its favour, proposes to do away with this mischievous inequality, and henceforth to base chargeability to the poor-rate, not upon parochial areas so likely to vary in the results they yield, but upon the area of the Union, within which the payments will be proportionate to the property assessed.

The debate in the House of Commons presented an amusing illustration of the dexterity and pertinacity with which well-educated gentlemen who are conscious of having an essentially untenable position to defend, can contrive to mask it, or if that is hopeless, to fight their battle upon some more plausible ground. Further information was demanded, as if the information collected by two or three committees, one of which sat for three years, and the still more accessible, if not more ample, array of facts with which several members have become familiar in their capacity of Chairmen of Boards of Guardians, were scanty and insufficient. As if the tendency of legislation for several years past had not been in the same direction as that of Mr. Villiers' Bill, had not logically pointed attention to it as inevitable, and had not furnished experience of its probable operative value. The principle of the measure is clear enough to all who choose to apply to it the standard of common justice. There is no reason in the nature of things why the parochial area should be assumed as the basis of chargeability to the poor, rather than that of the Union. There is no particular ground for distributing liability according to the number of residents, and not according to the value of the property assessed. Nor does a change from the one to the other call for any great amount of detailed information to enable men to determine whether or not it will be a great public improvement. All our burdens ought to be adjusted in proportion to our means. Union rating will serve this purpose more certainly than parochial rating. When our knowledge is complete enough to establish this fact, what need is there of waiting for more?

The main objection urged against the Bill is its chief recommendation. It would affect the rights, it was said, and disturb the relations of property all over the kingdom. To be sure it will. It is, in truth, one of the objects of the measure. It is a transference of the burden of local taxation from property which pays too much to property which pays too little. The rights of the former it will affect favourably by redressing a palpable injustice—the rights of the latter it will affect unfavourably by placing upon it an equal share of a common burden which it has hitherto evaded. Let it be remembered, however, that the transference did not begin with the law. The landowners of close parishes have been long at work transferring to other parishes their equitable liabilities, by driving out their labourers, and making other people responsible for their maintenance when disabled by sickness or age, or when discharged from employment. Because they have profited for many years by throwing their share of a public burden upon others, is not that a good reason, not indeed for retaliating upon them, but for depriving them of the power of continuing to perpetuate injustice? The pertinent question is not whether the Bill will affect the relations of property advantageously for some and disagreeably for others, but whether it will do justly for all. If it will, then all talk about rights, and confiscation, becomes impertinent.

But it is contended that the measure will not benefit the mass of ratepayers, because it will conduce to carelessness and extravagance of administration, so that what is gained by equal chargeability over the Union will be lost through lax economy. It is also argued that the poor will get nothing by it, for, whereas at present they are often employed during the winter months to keep them off the rates, that will be no longer an object with tenant-farmer, when the rate is no longer that of his own parish, and when every item added to it is spread over a wide surface. There is a modicum of truth in this. But it has little weight in comparison with the considerations which may be urged on the other side. As a fact, however, it is worth noting that since the transference from the parish to the Union of half of the charge incurred in the relief of the poor, the annual expenditure of the Union has not grown. But will not all the guardians of other parishes exercise vigilance over the guardians of each particular parish? Guardians are in fact selected to keep down the poor, and there is little reason for apprehension that they will be too loose-handed. But, as it regards the poor themselves, the reasons

in favour of the measure immensely preponderate. As Sir G. Head has unanswerably urged, "The poor man would have a better chance of living where his work was wanted, and of procuring sufficient accommodation for his family as they grew up. The effect of the present law on his character would cease. Whether he was to be hired by a particular farmer would no longer depend upon the fact whether he was already settled in the parish in which that farmer paid his rates, but on the question whether his own habits and his own industry made him worth hiring. He would reap the consequences of his own conduct, without those consequences being overruled by the accident of his own or his father's settlement. If a good workman and a single man, he would no longer, as now, get less wages; under which disguise many an honest labourer is at present virtually paying what the parish would otherwise have to pay as poor-rates, in order to support an idle neighbour and his family at a lower rate than they would cost in the workhouse. Lastly, in case of sickness he would have no difficulty in obtaining relief; the obligation could not be thrust off by an order of removal, nor could he be transferred to some distant parish, in which he knew no one and was known by no one."

THE DISINTEGRATION OF THE SOUTH.

EVERY mail from America now brings confirmatory proof of General Grant's allegation that the Southern Confederation is a shell without a kernel. General Sherman has now traversed the principal States of the South, and in his march first through Georgia, from Atlanta to Savannah, and subsequently from Savannah through South Carolina and part of North Carolina to Fayetteville on a line with Wilmington, he has met with little organised resistance. In turn Beauregard, Hardee, and Johnston have retired at his approach, no State militia have turned out to harass his rear, no towns have offered a protracted defence, and Sherman reports his arrival some fifty miles from Wilmington and Raleigh in fine condition, after living upon the country through which he has passed. Here he appears to be pausing awhile while the co-operating force under General Schofield has been advancing eastward from Newbern, and has, after very obstinate engagements, driven Bragg out of Kinston, and obliged him to retire to Goldsborough. For the capture of this railway position, the two Federal Generals would probably combine their forces, and afterwards sweep northward to Weldon, on the southern border of Virginia, distant only some sixty miles, and within reach of Grant's cavalry.

The time seems near at hand when General Lee, who perhaps will soon be Dictator in all that remains of the Confederation, will find Richmond untenable. Great alarm prevails in that city. All the newspapers except one have ceased to appear, the Government *employés* have been called out for service, and it is said that preparations for the evacuation of that much-besieged capital had commenced. The Congress is reproached for its lack of courage and resolution. "The very men," says the *Enquirer*, "who were the first to secede are the first to surrender." The *Examiner* speaks in the same strain of consternation. "What mean," it says, "these rumours of senatorial committees approaching the President to submit terms of submission? That there is a party of whipped seceders in and about Richmond cannot be denied. They are cowed and cowardly, miserable wretches who brought the war upon the country, and would now surrender to the enemy. A single head and a single arm is now needed, and if Congress would consult its patriotism, it would entrust all power with the President and General Lee, and go home. The Congress is defunct. The country no longer looks to it for any aid in the struggle. The negroes have been withheld until it is now nearly too late. The currency is beyond their power to help. Those who talk now of compromise mean submission to subjugation." Desertions from the Confederate armies, both in North Carolina and Virginia, are increasing, including a large number of officers, who, it is said, all agree in ascribing their abandonment of their colours to their belief that "the Confederacy is gone up." The plain truth is, says the *Daily News* correspondent, "that there is a large and growing party at the South anxious to throw Davis overboard, and try whether it cannot get better terms from Lincoln than its own Government now offers it."

This process of disintegration, and the final struggle between the belligerents, is likely to be materially hastened by the recent successes of

Sheridan in his raid eastward. That active general has barred the retreat of the Confederates towards Lynchburg, by tearing up the railroad from Richmond, and destroying bridges, locks, and dams to within forty miles of the capital. Thus cut off from one line of retreat, and a principal source of his supplies, the position of General Lee becomes increasingly embarrassing. His retirement from Richmond would facilitate the junction of Sherman and Grant, whose united forces would immensely overmatch all that Lee could gather together from the *débris* of the Southern armies together with his own. He can hardly hope to attack Grant with success behind his strong defences, and it is now scarcely in his power to fall suddenly upon Sherman, while a retreat into North Carolina *via* the Danville Railway would involve much loss of prestige and the demoralisation of his soldiers.

If the Southerners were of one mind, the retreat of the Confederate Commander-in-Chief into the interior of the country might enable him to maintain a protracted, if not a successful contest. But it has been evident for some time that the population have become tired of the war into which the great slaveowners precipitated them; and the message of the Governor of Georgia reveals the bitterness of feeling they entertain against the Central Government. State rights have been set at naught to suit the exigencies of President Davis and his Government. "Private property," says the writer referred to, "has been impressed for the use of the Government on an enormous scale; the provisions of the constitution, as Governor Brown and many others understand them, with regard to the raising and officering of troops for the Confederate service, have been disregarded. The most rigid and remorseless conscription ever known in history—a conscription which makes the mere appearance of any man not a cripple in the streets or in the fields presumptive evidence of desertion—has been enforced over the whole South. Every farmer or mechanic in the land owes to the military authorities the privilege of following his calling in his own home." All this implies a remorseless despotism on the one side, and thorough alienation on the other; and Governor Brown does not disguise the hopelessness of continued resistance and the absurdity of looking to the armed negro for deliverance. Spite, therefore, of the consummate generalship of Lee and his single-minded patriotism, spite of the valour and devotion of his troops, there seems considerable probability that the Confederacy will fall to pieces as much from want of cohesion and internal dissension as from the success of the Federal Generals. Only it is to be devoutly wished that the humane commander-in-chief of the Confederacy will not vainly spill the blood of his soldiers if he finds it impossible to surmount the gathering perils that beset him.

Since the above was written we learn that President Lincoln, who has been very chary in predictions of late, had publicly declared his belief that the end of the war was near, and that the South was reduced to the last extremity. This view of the situation is somewhat confirmed by the message of President Davis, who, while urging a vigorous prosecution of the war, admits the critical state of military affairs, and recommends the suspension of the *Habeas Corpus* on the plea of public safety and imperative necessity. This demand implies great popular reluctance to make the sacrifices desired by the Confederate President.

NOTES OF THE SESSION.

It often happens to irresolute people in private life to find themselves placed in a position where the force of circumstances obliges them to take courses of which their judgment disapproves. This seems to have been the condition of the House of Commons in reference to the defence of Canada. A second debate on the subject on Thursday evening does not appear to have made clearer the wisdom of the fortification policy proposed by the Government, though an overwhelming majority voted for the estimate for 50,000*l.*, as an instalment of 200,000*l.* to be thus expended. There seemed to be an innate conviction that this money would be thrown away, that it was absolutely futile for the purposes of real defence, and that it would involve us in engagements which are very embarrassing without securing the object intended. The Commons were asked to approve of a scheme which has not as yet been formally ratified by the Canadians, and to discuss which a deputation from their Government is coming over to England. We venture, therefore, to think that Mr. Lowe was quite justified in protesting once more against the policy of encouraging the Canadians to believe that we should resist an invasion

which we could not resist, and stir them up relying on our support, to incur dangers from which we could not deliver her. There is not only "mutual deception" in the case, but an appearance of officiousness on our part, of which the colonists are sure to take advantage, and a prospect of considerable misunderstanding in the future.

The consequences of the step now being taken, and the bolder but safer course which might have been followed, were very clearly pointed out by those members who had the moral courage to speak out on the subject. Mr. Watkin asked, but nobody deigned to reply, why, before giving way to the fortification mania, the Government should not have addressed itself to the Washington Cabinet to prevent the necessity of an expense of such a doubtful utility. Mr. Lefevre also made a statesmanlike speech in the same direction. He thought it no kindness on our part to engage with America in such a contest of fleets and armies as had cursed Europe so long. We did not know that, at the close of the war, the United States would not disband their armies, and evince a great desire for peace. At all events, there was at present no question between us and America which might not be settled by amicable arrangement, or, if necessary, by arbitration. He thought—and the *Times* echoes the sentiment—that Canada ought to be in a condition to occupy a neutral position in case of a serious difference between England and the United States. Mr. Bright, in a powerful speech, followed up this view, and showed that Canada, with her deranged finances and impaired credit in our money market, could not bear the burdens we are imposing upon her, and was not unlikely to seek relief in the assumption of an independent position. But in questions of this kind, as he said, the Government and the Opposition shook hands.

Lord Palmerston adroitly turned this charge into a compliment, and contended, with his usual positiveness, in favour of his favourite maxim that every nation ought to make defensive preparations against possible aggression; and that, as the Canadians chose to remain connected with us, it would be disgraceful not to help them to maintain their position. But would not Mr. Lowe's plan of announcing that we will fight for Canada to the last be equally effectual for her protection, and equally compatible with our honour? We are not bound to do an impossible thing, which this scheme of defending Canada in Canada certainly seems to be.

The House, however, decided by 275 to 40 votes, not merely in favour of the proposed vote, but of the Ministerial plan—viz., that 200,000*l.* should be expended in fortifying Quebec, that 20,000 British troops should be kept in Canada, and that this country should supply the armament for the new defences. The Canadian journals already ask—"Is that all?" the House of Commons is more in doubt than ever, and Lord Elcho proposes to take an early opportunity of reopening the whole subject. As for big Mr. Bentinek, after moving an amendment condemnatory of the fortification plan, he took fright at the prospect of going into the same lobby as Mr. Bright, and walked out of the House without voting.

It must not be supposed that the items we have mentioned include the whole of the proposed expenditure in connection with future American contingencies. Colonel Jervois was the Secretary of the Defence Commission which, as Colonel Dickson said on Friday, had entailed upon us that extraordinary expenditure for fortifications which has made us the laughing stock of the whole world. So this redoubtable officer proposes that Bermuda and Halifax should be fortified, and each of these places figures for 35,000*l.* in this year's estimates. But 245,000*l.* will yet be required to put Bermuda into proper defence. 100,000*l.* additional has yet to be voted for the defences of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in accordance with Colonel Jervois's suggestion. All this is going on whilst our five great dockyards are being fortified, and the defensive works of Harwich, Newhaven, the Severn and the Mersey, not forgetting distant Mauritius and ever-exacting Gibraltar, are proceeding. This is not, however, enough. There is always some Oliver Twist to ask for more. That injured officer, Sir F. Smith, wants to know why the Medway and the Tyne are to be left defenceless. Colonel Dunne complains, not without reason, that in this prodigal waste of British money, Ireland should only get 37,000*l.* in the general scramble. Surely all the world must be arming against this unhappy country, or we are the victims of the most afflicting and unmanly mania that ever possessed a nation! Will not some hon. member review the whole of this chapter of our history before the most extravagant Parliament of modern times goes to its account?

It is refreshing in these days of Parliamentary vacillation to meet with a man who knows his own mind, and is prepared to act upon it. Such a

TO ADVERTISERS

The Terms for Advertising in *THE NONCONFORMIST* are as follows:—

One Line A Shilling.
Each additional Line Sixpence.

There are, on an average, eight words in a line.

Advertisers of all classes will find *THE NONCONFORMIST* a valuable Medium for their Announcements.

The *NONCONFORMIST* is registered for transmission abroad.

Published by ARTHUR MIALI (to whom it is requested that all Post-office Orders may be made payable), 18, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street, E.C.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Stamped Copies are supplied through the Post-office, direct from the Publishing-office, or by any News Agent, on the following terms, for payment in advance:—

Per Quarter	£ s. d.
Half-year	0 6 6
Year	0 13 0
Year	1 6 0

Unstamped Copies may be had at the Railway Stations, and of the Local Booksellers and News Agents; but an unstamped copy sent by post must have a penny postage stamp affixed each time of transmission.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * We have received a letter from the Committee of the London Congregational Chapel-building Society which, though an appeal for money, we insert gratis in the body of our paper, with the exception of the postscript. It may be regarded as our contribution—the last in this shape—towards the object which the society have in view. We believe this is the third time within a year that we have been asked to insert gratuitously similar appeals from the same society. We therefore embrace the opportunity of saying a word in reference to this growing tendency to make use of the columns of our own, in common with other newspapers of the same class, for such objects without payment. Many of our religious societies, chapel managers, and not a few private individuals, seem to have forgotten the maxim, "Live and let live." Is it quite fair or reasonable to ask the gratuitous use of a medium of publicity, which it has cost money and mental toil to establish, and which is entirely sustained by private enterprise? Ought societies to seek to make a miserable profit out of our paper in this indirect and unacknowledged way? If they did not think this channel for communicating with a portion of the public a desirable one, they would not, we presume, send to us. Surely then such appeals are worth to them the cost of an advertisement; and it seems to us quite as reasonable to expect the printer to print gratis the circulars of societies, or the Post Office to carry them for nothing, or the secretary and clerks to be honorary officers, as that newspapers, the income of which largely depends upon advertisements, should be frequently and silently mulcted for religious and philanthropic objects. Newspapers really cannot live on such terms. It seems almost necessary to state that we enjoy no subvention from the Government—no rates-in-aid from any society or institution whatever. We trust our contemporaries will unite with us in this protest against a growing practice which disregards the equitable rules of trade, and effects a small economy at our joint expense.

"J. P. D." Gibraltar.—P. O. O. received for 11. 13s., being half-yearly subscription to *Nonconformist* (13s.) and 11. for the Liberation Society.

"S. M.," Sandhurst, Victoria.—P. O. O. for 26s. received, with thanks.

"R. W. R. L."—2s. in postage stamps received for the National Freedman's Relief Association.

* * Subscribers and Advertisers are respectfully informed that the payment of sums exceeding five shillings cannot be received in postage stamps.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1865.

SUMMARY.

THE great lock-out is, we are happy to report, practically at an end. The northern ironworkers, who disapproved from the first of the course pursued by their Staffordshire fellow-workmen, have pledged themselves not to support, either directly or indirectly, the North Staffordshire men during the continuance of the present dispute, and also to sever all connection between their Union and that of the Midland Counties. The Staffordshire ironworkers have also agreed to meet their masters this day, under Lord Lichfield's presidency, and are ready to agree that the question of the wages of the "puddlers" shall be settled by arbitration after the termination of the lock-out. Before the present week is out it is probable the iron-trade will have resumed its wonted activity.

The debates on the Address in the French Corps Législatif commenced on Monday. M. Ollivier, who has for some time shown a disposition to separate from the regular Opposition, made a speech in which he declared his preference for social and individual liberty to political

liberty, but asked for greater freedom for the press, and Ministerial responsibility. He strongly urged the Government to liberal concessions, and promised his energetic support if that policy should be pursued. M. Thiers, who spoke yesterday, declared that political liberty ought to precede administrative reforms, and said that in all affairs of state the country should be consulted before, and not after, matters had been settled. In reply to the ex-Minister, M. Thuillier, an Imperialist orator, denied that a Parliamentary form of Government was suited to France, which required a Sovereign who governed as well as reigned. The Opposition have a formidable list of democratic amendments to propose, and the Ultramontane section of the Chamber are to distinctly proclaim the urgency of maintaining the territorial rights of the Pope.

A crisis in Prussian politics seems impending. The overwhelming majority of the Chamber of Deputies still refuse to yield on the military question, or to vote the budget till their demands are listened to. The Minister of War has, therefore, been instructed to inform the House that, if it continues obstinate, "the question will no longer be one of rights, but of existence." In other words, the constitution will be abolished by the King. What effect this declaration has produced on the Deputies we are not told. The Prussian Government have, however, other difficulties to try them—the Federal Diet having decided, by nine to six votes, to discuss formally the proposal of Bavaria in favour of the claims of the Duke of Augustenburg to the Duchies. But the Berlin Cabinet seems to care very little for the decisions of the Diet.

By a majority of 91 to 33 the Canadian House of Representatives has adopted the Confederation scheme. It must be confessed that the minority is rather large, considering how cordially the proposal was at first received in Canada. This vote will, it is feared, encourage the Legislatures both of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia to carry out their expected resolution of rejecting the terms of union. In prospect of this decision, Mr. Cardwell was asked the other evening by Lord Robert Cecil whether any measure would be proposed for coercing the dissentients, but the Colonial Minister wisely forbore to answer the question, simply expressing, on behalf of the Government, the hope that the scheme would be adopted by the various Provincial Legislatures; and his perfect readiness, if it should be so adopted, to propose to Parliament the measures necessary to carry it into effect.

A remarkable telegraphic feat performed last week does not seem to have excited the attention it deserves. On Friday last news from Australia was received by direct overland telegraph from Ceylon of Feb. 24—only a month old. An additional week or ten days has been annihilated in the time of communication with the Antipodes, which will be further shortened when the line through Asia Minor is properly worked. Now that half the distance to Australia has been bridged over by the electric wire, the completion of the other moiety does not appear a very visionary scheme.

UNION CHARGEABILITY BILL.

WHEN Mr. Villiers introduced to the House of Commons his Bill for making the area of charge for the relief of the poor coincide with the area of managing that relief, we gave a short account of its chief provisions, and pointed out some of the more important benefits which they were likely to secure. The general scope of the measure is to equalise in every Poor-law Union the rates paid by the several parishes of which the Union consists for the support of those who are unable, from whatever cause, to support themselves. At present each of the parishes pays an equal share in respect of about half the entire amount expended upon the poor, or upon the management of their relief, within the area of the Union—to the other half each parish contributes a quota according to the number of paupers resident within its bounds, and, of course, the charge falls very unevenly upon different and sometimes contiguous parishes. The whole land of one parish may be owned by a single proprietor, or by two or three—in which case, the effect of the existing system is, the clearing the entire parish of all, or as nearly all as possible, of the cottage accommodation which by giving residence to labourers entails a liability of poor-rates in proportion to the number of the destitute. In the next parish, containing, perhaps a small town, and in which the ownership of the land is considerably subdivided, money is to be made by running up a lot of cheap tenements for which extortionate rents may be obtained, and which, in consequence of scarcity of house room elsewhere, are overcrowded with tenants who divide between three or four families the rooms which would not

have been too many for one. This parish is also charged for its resident poor—and, whereas in the close parish sixpence a pound on the assessment may be all that is required, in the open parish six shillings a pound upon an equivalent assessment may be not at all uncommon. Mr. Villiers' Bill, read a second time on Monday night, after a long debate, and a large majority in its favour, proposes to do away with this mischievous inequality, and henceforth to base chargeability to the poor-rate, not upon parochial areas so likely to vary in the results they yield, but upon the area of the Union, within which the payments will be proportionate to the property assessed.

The debate in the House of Commons presented an amusing illustration of the dexterity and pertinacity with which well-educated gentlemen who are conscious of having an essentially untenable position to defend, can contrive to mask it, or if that is hopeless, to fight their battle upon some more plausible ground. Further information was demanded, as if the information collected by two or three committees, one of which sat for three years, and the still more accessible, if not more ample, array of facts with which several members have become familiar in their capacity of Chairmen of Boards of Guardians, were scanty and insufficient. As if the tendency of legislation for several years past had not been in the same direction as that of Mr. Villiers' Bill, had not logically pointed attention to it as inevitable, and had not furnished experience of its probable operative value. The principle of the measure is clear enough to all who choose to apply to it the standard of common justice. There is no reason in the nature of things why the parochial area should be assumed as the basis of chargeability to the poor, rather than that of the Union. There is no particular ground for distributing liability according to the number of residents, and not according to the value of the property assessed. Nor does a change from the one to the other call for any great amount of detailed information to enable men to determine whether or not it will be a great public improvement. All our burdens ought to be adjusted in proportion to our means. Union rating will serve this purpose more certainly than parochial rating. When our knowledge is complete enough to establish this fact, what need is there of waiting for more?

The main objection urged against the Bill is its chief recommendation. It would affect the rights, it was said, and disturb the relations of property all over the kingdom. To be sure it will. It is, in truth, one of the objects of the measure. It is a transference of the burden of local taxation from property which pays too much to property which pays too little. The rights of the former it will affect favourably by redressing a palpable injustice—the rights of the latter it will affect unfavourably by placing upon it an equal share of a common burden which it has hitherto evaded. Let it be remembered, however, that the transference did not begin with the law. The landowners of close parishes have been long at work transferring to other parishes their equitable liabilities, by driving out their labourers, and making other people responsible for their maintenance when disabled by sickness or age, or when discharged from employment. Because they have profited for many years by throwing their share of a public burden upon others, is not that a good reason, not indeed for retaliating upon them, but for depriving them of the power of continuing to perpetuate injustice? The pertinent question is not whether the Bill will affect the relations of property advantageously for some and disagreeably for others, but whether it will do justly for all. If it will, then all talk about rights, and confiscation, becomes impertinent.

But it is contended that the measure will not benefit the mass of ratepayers, because it will conduce to carelessness and extravagance of administration, so that what is gained by equal chargeability over the Union will be lost through lax economy. It is also argued that the poor will get nothing by it, for, whereas at present they are often employed during the winter months to keep them off the rates, that will be no longer an object with tenant-farmer, when the rate is no longer that of his own parish, and when every item added to it is spread over a wide surface. There is a modicum of truth in this. But it has little weight in comparison with the considerations which may be urged on the other side. As a fact, however, it is worth noting that since the transference from the parish to the Union of half of the charge incurred in the relief of the poor, the annual expenditure of the Union has not grown. But will not all the guardians of other parishes exercise vigilance over the guardians of each particular parish? Guardians are in fact selected to keep down the poor, and there is little reason for apprehension that they will be too loose-handed. But, as it regards the poor themselves, the reasons

in favour of the measure immensely preponderate. As Sir G. Head has unanswerably urged, "The poor man would have a better chance of living where his work was wanted, and of procuring sufficient accommodation for his family as they grew up. The effect of the present law on his character would cease. Whether he was to be hired by a particular farmer would no longer depend upon the fact whether he was already settled in the parish in which that farmer paid his rates, but on the question whether his own habits and his own industry made him worth hiring. He would reap the consequences of his own conduct, without those consequences being overruled by the accident of his own or his father's settlement. If a good workman and a single man, he would no longer, as now, get less wages; under which disguise many an honest labourer is at present virtually paying what the parish would otherwise have to pay as poor-rates, in order to support an idle neighbour and his family at a lower rate than they would cost in the workhouse. Lastly, in case of sickness he would have no difficulty in obtaining relief; the obligation could not be thrust off by an order of removal, nor could he be transferred to some distant parish, in which he knew no one and was known by no one."

THE DISINTEGRATION OF THE SOUTH.

EVERY mail from America now brings confirmatory proof of General Grant's allegation that the Southern Confederation is a shell without a kernel. General Sherman has now traversed the principal States of the South, and in his march first through Georgia, from Atlanta to Savannah, and subsequently from Savannah through South Carolina and part of North Carolina to Fayetteville on a line with Wilmington, he has met with little organised resistance. In turn Beauregard, Hardee, and Johnston have retired at his approach, no State militia have turned out to harass his rear, no towns have offered a protracted defence, and Sherman reports his arrival some fifty miles from Wilmington and Raleigh in fine condition, after living upon the country through which he has passed. Here he appears to be pausing awhile while the co-operating force under General Schofield has been advancing eastward from Newbern, and has, after very obstinate engagements, driven Bragg out of Kinston, and obliged him to retire to Goldsborough. For the capture of this railway position, the two Federal Generals would probably combine their forces, and afterwards sweep northward to Weldon, on the southern border of Virginia, distant only some sixty miles, and within reach of Grant's cavalry.

The time seems near at hand when General Lee, who perhaps will soon be Dictator in all that remains of the Confederation, will find Richmond untenable. Great alarm prevails in that city. All the newspapers except one have ceased to appear, the Government employes have been called out for service, and it is said that preparations for the evacuation of that much-besieged capital had commenced. The Congress is reproached for its lack of courage and resolution. "The very men," says the *Enquirer*, "who were the first to secede are the first to surrender." The *Examiner* speaks in the same strain of consternation. "What mean," it says, "these rumours of senatorial committees approaching the President to submit terms of submission? That there is a party of whipped seceders in and about Richmond cannot be denied. They are cowed and cowardly, miserable wretches who brought the war upon the country, and would now surrender to the enemy. A single head and a single arm is now needed, and if Congress would consult its patriotism, it would entrust all power with the President and General Lee, and go home. The Congress is defunct. The country no longer looks to it for any aid in the struggle. The negroes have been withheld until it is now nearly too late. The currency is beyond their power to help. Those who talk now of compromise mean submission to subjugation." Desertions from the Confederate armies, both in North Carolina and Virginia, are increasing, including a large number of officers, who, it is said, all agree in ascribing their abandonment of their colours to their belief that "the Confederacy is gone up." The plain truth is, says the *Daily News* correspondent, "that there is a large and growing party at the South anxious to throw Davis overboard, and try whether it cannot get better terms from Lincoln than its own Government now offers it."

This process of disintegration, and the final struggle between the belligerents, is likely to be materially hastened by the recent successes of

Sheridan in his raid eastward. That active general has barred the retreat of the Confederates towards Lynchburg, by tearing up the railroad from Richmond, and destroying bridges, locks, and dams to within forty miles of the capital. Thus cut off from one line of retreat, and a principal source of his supplies, the position of General Lee becomes increasingly embarrassing. His retirement from Richmond would facilitate the junction of Sherman and Grant, whose united forces would immensely overmatch all that Lee could gather together from the debris of the Southern armies together with his own. He can hardly hope to attack Grant with success behind his strong defences, and it is now scarcely in his power to fall suddenly upon Sherman, while a retreat into North Carolina via the Danville Railway would involve much loss of prestige and the demoralisation of his soldiers.

If the Southerners were of one mind, the retreat of the Confederate Commander-in-Chief into the interior of the country might enable him to maintain a protracted, if not a successful contest. But it has been evident for some time that the population have become tired of the war into which the great slaveowners precipitated them; and the message of the Governor of Georgia reveals the bitterness of feeling they entertain against the Central Government. State rights have been set at naught to suit the exigencies of President Davis and his Government. "Private property," says the writer referred to, "has been impressed for the use of the Government on an enormous scale; the provisions of the constitution, as Governor Brown and many others understand them, with regard to the raising and officering of troops for the Confederate service, have been disregarded. The most rigid and remorseless conscription ever known in history—a conscription which makes the mere appearance of any man not a cripple in the streets or in the fields presumptive evidence of desertion—has been enforced over the whole South. Every farmer or mechanic in the land owes to the military authorities the privilege of following his calling in his own home." All this implies a remorseless despotism on the one side, and thorough alienation on the other; and Governor Brown does not disguise the hopelessness of continued resistance and the absurdity of looking to the armed negro for deliverance. Spite, therefore, of the consummate generalship of Lee and his single-minded patriotism, spite of the valour and devotion of his troops, there seems considerable probability that the Confederacy will fall to pieces as much from want of cohesion and internal dissension as from the success of the Federal Generals. Only it is to be devoutly wished that the humane commander-in-chief of the Confederacy will not vainly spill the blood of his soldiers if he finds it impossible to surmount the gathering perils that beset him.

Since the above was written we learn that President Lincoln, who has been very chary in predictions of late, had publicly declared his belief that the end of the war was near, and that the South was reduced to the last extremity. This view of the situation is somewhat confirmed by the message of President Davis, who, while urging a vigorous prosecution of the war, admits the critical state of military affairs, and recommends the suspension of the *Habeas Corpus* on the plea of public safety and imperative necessity. This demand implies great popular reluctance to make the sacrifices desired by the Confederate President.

NOTES OF THE SESSION.

It often happens to irresolute people in private life to find themselves placed in a position where the force of circumstances obliges them to take courses of which their judgment disapproves. This seems to have been the condition of the House of Commons in reference to the defence of Canada. A second debate on the subject on Thursday evening does not appear to have made clearer the wisdom of the fortification policy proposed by the Government, though an overwhelming majority voted for the estimate for 50,000*l.*, as an instalment of 200,000*l.* to be thus expended. There seemed to be an innate conviction that this money would be thrown away, that it was absolutely futile for the purposes of real defence, and that it would involve us in engagements which are very embarrassing without securing the object intended. The Commons were asked to approve of a scheme which has not as yet been formally ratified by the Canadians, and to discuss which a deputation from their Government is coming over to England. We venture, therefore, to think that Mr. Lowe was quite justified in protesting once more against the policy of encouraging the Canadians to believe that we should resist an invasion

which we could not resist, and stir them up relying on our support, to incur dangers from which we could not deliver her. There is not only "mutual deception" in the case, but an appearance of officiousness on our part, of which the colonists are sure to take advantage, and a prospect of considerable misunderstanding in the future.

The consequences of the step now being taken, and the bolder but safer course which might have been followed, were very clearly pointed out by those members who had the moral courage to speak out on the subject. Mr. Watkin asked, but nobody deigned to reply, why, before giving way to the fortification mania, the Government should not have addressed itself to the Washington Cabinet to prevent the necessity of an expense of such a doubtful utility. Mr. Lefevre also made a statesmanlike speech in the same direction. He thought it no kindness on our part to engage with America in such a contest of fleets and armies as had cursed Europe so long. We did not know that, at the close of the war, the United States would not disband their armies, and evince a great desire for peace. At all events, there was at present no question between us and America which might not be settled by amicable arrangement, or, if necessary, by arbitration. He thought—and the *Times* echoes the sentiment—that Canada ought to be in a condition to occupy a neutral position in case of a serious difference between England and the United States. Mr. Bright, in a powerful speech, followed up this view, and showed that Canada, with her deranged finances and impaired credit in our money market, could not bear the burdens we are imposing upon her, and was not unlikely to seek relief in the assumption of an independent position. But in questions of this kind, as he said, the Government and the Opposition shook hands.

Lord Palmerston adroitly turned this charge into a compliment, and contended, with his usual positiveness, in favour of his favourite maxim that every nation ought to make defensive preparations against possible aggression; and that, as the Canadians chose to remain connected with us, it would be disgraceful not to help them to maintain their position. But would not Mr. Lowe's plan of announcing that we will fight for Canada to the last be equally effectual for her protection, and equally compatible with our honour? We are not bound to do an impossible thing, which this scheme of defending Canada in Canada certainly seems to be.

The House, however, decided by 275 to 40 votes, not merely in favour of the proposed vote, but of the Ministerial plan—viz., that 200,000*l.* should be expended in fortifying Quebec, that 20,000 British troops should be kept in Canada, and that this country should supply the armament for the new defences. The Canadian journals already ask—"Is that all?" the House of Commons is more in doubt than ever, and Lord Elcho proposes to take an early opportunity of reopening the whole subject. As for big Mr. Bentinck, after moving an amendment condemnatory of the fortification plan, he took fright at the prospect of going into the same lobby as Mr. Bright, and walked out of the House without voting.

It must not be supposed that the items we have mentioned include the whole of the proposed expenditure in connection with future American contingencies. Colonel Jervois was the Secretary of the Defence Commission which, as Colonel Dickson said on Friday, had entailed upon us that extraordinary expenditure for fortifications which has made us the laughing stock of the whole world. So this redoubtable officer proposes that Bermuda and Halifax should be fortified, and each of these places figures for 35,000*l.* in this year's estimates. But 245,000*l.* will yet be required to put Bermuda into proper defence. 100,000*l.* additional has yet to be voted for the defences of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in accordance with Colonel Jervois's suggestion. All this is going on whilst our five great dockyards are being fortified, and the defensive works of Harwich, Newhaven, the Severn and the Mersey, not forgetting distant Mauritius and ever-exacting Gibraltar, are proceeding. This is not, however, enough. There is always some Oliver Twist to ask for more. That injured officer, Sir F. Smith, wants to know why the Medway and the Tyne are to be left defenceless. Colonel Dunne complains, not without reason, that in this prodigal waste of British money, Ireland should only get 37,000*l.* in the general scramble. Surely all the world must be arming against this unhappy country, or we are the victims of the most afflicting and unmanly mania that ever possessed a nation! Will not some hon. member review the whole of this chapter of our history before the most extravagant Parliament of modern times goes to its account?

It is refreshing in these days of Parliamentary vacillation to meet with a man who knows his own mind, and is prepared to act upon it. Such a

one is Mr. Hadfield, who, by sheer force of purpose, succeeds where others fail. The Canadian debate lasted till midnight on Thursday, and the Qualification for Offices Abolition Bill was still among the orders of the day. An uproarious scene took place *apropos* of an Irish Bill with a very long title, in which the authority of the Speaker was rather contemned, and of this incident Mr. Hadfield's opponents took advantage to urge the postponement of his measure. Mr. Bright, however, opportunely interposed to expose the absurdity of the plea that the House was too "excited" to legislate in a becoming spirit. The proposed adjournment was voted down by a large majority, and the Qualification for Offices Abolition Bill was read a third time, and passed by the decisive majority of 130 to 56. The division list shows the good effect of a better understanding between the Catholic and Dissenting members. The Irish members gave a very strong vote in favour of the Bill, and for the first time this five years, Sir George Bowyer supported a measure for the relief of Nonconformists. Lord Palmerston, also, threw aside his wonted neutrality to support Mr. Hadfield; and it is a curious circumstance that his lordship, who is the only surviving member of the House that opposed the Test and Corporation Acts, should have recorded his vote on Thursday for abolishing the last obstacle to the completion of that beneficent measure. We believe that Lord Houghton (Monckton Milnes) has consented to take charge of it in the Upper House.

Last night Mr. Dillwyn brought forward his motion that in the opinion of this House the present position of the Irish Church Establishment is unsatisfactory, and calls for the early attention of her Majesty's Government. Sir George Grey, on behalf of the Government, met the motion with a direct negative. The anomaly of an endowed Church of the minority in a country in which no provision was made for the Church of the majority was admitted, but the Irish Church was so rooted as an institution in the country that it could not be subverted without a revolution. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in an elaborate speech, declared his inability to negative the first part of the resolution, but he argued that the state of public feeling did not warrant the Government in applying any remedy to the present unsatisfactory state of things. Mr. Whiteside described Mr. Gladstone's speech as indicating a policy which he was not prepared to adopt now, but which was contemplated hereafter. The adjournment of the debate to the 2nd of May was carried by a large majority.

VAGRANTS.

How natural it is to be a vagrant! We don't mean to go about in rags and tatters, unable to give what that intelligent and active officer, A. 1, terms "a satisfactory account" of ourselves; begging odd viands at street-doors, while keeping a furtive eye on coats or any other portable property that may be within reach; frightening unprotected elderly ladies in country lanes by our savage looks and modern "stand and deliver"; spending one fortnight in improving our digestion on prison diet, and learning industrious habits by dissecting oakum-fibres, and wandering the next freely over the country, relieving anxious farmers' wives who are "troubled about many things" of superfluous poultry; sleeping under sweet-smelling hay-stacks in the soft summer nights, or carousing after the fashion of the worthies in the "Beggars' Opera," in delightful reunion of our craft when the winter brings us huddling together in the kitchens of tramps' hotels; and finally being gathered to our fathers in ditches whose reeking damps attract our rheumatic old bones, or on workhouse steps where the basilisk eye of Bum, the beadle, glows over our last gasp as "a relief to the parish." Such a life has its attractions. There is a freedom from social restraints—a picturesque variety—about it, that is very charming. But still it has its inconveniences, and it isn't respectable; and so we have determined, notwithstanding a hankering to the contrary, not to recommend it to the adoption of our readers. Vagrancy in the more romantic and general sense which it legitimately possesses, is what we are thinking of. We have far too much sympathy with the literary vagrants who read this particular column to addle their brains with Poor-law Returns, or to awake painful feelings by conducting them to the fever-haunted, squalid homes of the homeless—to be guilty of an Irishism.

To return to our subject—as preachers say who never have a subject to return to—vagrancy is very natural. It was the primitive order of things. To wander about freely with their flocks and herds, was the patriarchal notion of life; now pitching their tents by some sheltering hill-side, and now under

some grove of trees; choosing any pasture land they thought proper, without consulting the lord of the manor, or having any question raised about the right of way. But this species of vagrancy was, after all, very tame. As the world grew out of its infancy, and began to feel the quickening pulses and the strong thews of early manhood, it became much more of a daring and adventurous vagrant. Tribes and nations swept in war-torrents from their old regions, and the vagrant hordes—after flowing over some more civilised, perhaps, but weaker race, and defacing or breaking most of the national monuments with their wild surge—deposited another layer of nationality upon the newly-conquered territory. The Asiatic yielded to the Greek. The Celt and the Greek were alike swooped upon by the Roman eagle. The Goth and the Saxon subdued the Latin empire. Far away in the visionary East the Tartar dominated over the myriads of China, whose civilisation, so old and yet so unprogressive, is but now awakening the attention of the West. The Hindoo probably displaced some aboriginal race while the shepherd kings were stepping as conquerors to the throne of Egypt. Solitary vagrants displayed their idiosyncrasies in those old times as now. The mythical Jason dared the storms of the Black Sea to fetch the golden fleece from Colchis. Telemachus made "the grand tour" of his age with Mentor for a travelling tutor. Pythagoras, like his disciple Apollonius of Syana in a later age, after traversing Chaldea and Persia, probably reached the Indus or the Ganges, and dreamed that in their streams he had found the very fountain of philosophic inspiration. The ancients who studied philosophy or science were of necessity vagrants. In an age of mainly oral instruction there was nothing for them but to travel from one country to another in order to learn in the schools of the most celebrated teachers. Hence Egypt, whose priests were the chief custodians of the old world's lore, was the famous resort of such men as Thales and Plato. Hither also came curious old Herodotus, to poke his walking-stick into all the nooks and crannies of pyramids and obelisks, and to write a history which will survive the more authentic and vivacious narratives of "the special correspondent" of the present day.

The causes of vagrancy are very various. National necessity operates. A populous race in a barren country must migrate; and so the bag-pipe music of the Scotchman's "canny" tongue is heard everywhere. The richness and defencelessness of a neighbouring country tempts a hardier but less comfortably circumstanced race to overrun it. Thus Italy has been the booty of Germany for many ages, until of late. The daring and ambition of monarchs, while receiving an eager support from, has also given a direction to, the roving and adventurous spirit of a nation—of which there is a large element in most peoples. Alexander, Zingis Khan, Cæsar, Attila, Edward the Third, Frederick the Great, and Napoleon, not only swept into their armies those that were constrained to bear arms, but were also readily followed by youths of courage and enthusiasm who would otherwise have sought adventures on their own account. In the same way, now, the army and navy are vents for the mettle and pluck which are shown first in thrashing some big coward on the playground, and afterwards in leading a forlorn hope or in heading a party of boarders. Religion has been often an incentive to vagrancy. Under its influence the fanatic Moslem devastated East and West, and the fierce Barons, whose crossed-legged figures repose now in stony sleep in our old churches, buckled on their armour to follow Cæsar de Lion to Holy Land to wrest from the infidels the Lord's Sepulchre. And at this day, the pilgrim wanders, as his faith determines, to Benares or Mecca, to Rome or Jerusalem. But the ancient palmer with his staff, scrip, and sandalled feet, who journeyed on, supported by the charities of the faithful, is represented now by the clerical-looking gentleman who travels first-class from Paris to Marseilles, thence to Alexandria in the saloon of one of the P. and O. Company's steamers, with the intention of "doing" Jerusalem, &c., and of coming back in a few months to publish his diary, and to tell his congregation in every sermon for the next five years what he saw when he went on pilgrimage. Missionary developments have again illustrated religious vagrancy from St. Paul to Dr. Livingstone. Commerce has called forth much of adventurous spirit. The Phœnician coasted round Europe of old to trade with the Cornish miner. The Dutchman doubled the Cape in no very "flying" craft to bring spices from Java. And so it has come to pass that the nation of shopkeepers is by no means a nation destitute of enterprise and courage. Geographical exploration and scientific research have induced vagrancy amongst the moderns as much as the study of philo-

sophy did amongst the ancients. Our McClintocks, Sherard Osborns, and Burtons, continue the honoured and long line of names of those who have become vagrants to extend the domain of knowledge. But possibly deeper than all those causes is that love for novelty and change which has been common to mankind in all ages, though more prominent in some races than in others, and which is illustrated as much by a picnic party as an outward-bound emigrant-ship. Surely vagrancy is natural.

The romantic vagrant, and the outlaw vagrant, are decidedly the two most interesting types. Robinson Crusoe will always excite an attention that the most observant and daring of modern travellers can never hope to arouse. Baron Munchausen will take the precedence of Lord Dufferin. Don Quixote and Gulliver have had their wanderings and adventures followed with an interest more intense than the most scientific expedition that ever started to explore the source of a river, or to observe the transit of a planet.

But it is the outlaw vagrant whom novelists and poets delight in, and whose wild and daring deeds rouse youthful enthusiasm to its greatest pitch. The sturdy Vikings who came out of the cold, dark North, in their long ships, and whose piratical followers ravaged our eastern coasts with fire and sword; the fearless Englishmen who lived in the forests, shot the King's deer, and defied the Normans, like Robin Hood and Adam Bell; the Drakes and the little-scrupulous but daring seamen who in the early days of Britain's naval power carried "the meteor flag" to the Spanish Main, and who, with their successors that often sailed under a darker flag, have left strange tales of wild adventure and crime to haunt for ever the reefs and islands of the West Indies; the highwaymen who like Turpin and Claude du Val scoured the roads of England a century ago, performing deeds of gallantry and daring with gentlemanly grace under the moon, supping sumptuously afterwards and drinking one another's health in rich wines, but finishing off at Tyburn,—have had their several chroniclers, whose glowing narratives of "hair-breadth 'scape and peril" have never failed to find rapt readers. The strong individuality of these heroes, the poetry of their lives contrasting with the prose of every-day existence, the halo of glory that distance in time surrounds men with, the charm of their defying law and order (which we are afraid most of us must confess to), combine to render attractive the pictures of these lawless vagrants.

The times are changed now. Everybody and everything has been so fenced round by the progress of civilisation and the increased authority of law, that there is no room left for youthful daring to emulate either Paul Clifford or Paul Jones. The barrenest patch on the barest hill-side in the remotest county, has an owner whose rights and privileges are clearly defined; and the most crazy tenement in the most miserable alley is conveyed by legal instruments. The railway, the telegraph, and the press, have removed the want of communication and early intelligence which so facilitated the lawlessness of past ages. The seas even are mapped out by international arrangements. The track of the fishing-boat is determined; and laws against piracy hold the hardest in check on the high seas.

Gypsies, indeed, who are but sorry representatives of Bamfield Moore Carew, light their fires in wayside places, but are soon "moved on." Humble imitators of Jack Shepherd, excited by some melodrama or novel, terminate their career speedily in a gaol, from which they never make the marvellous escapes of their prototype.

Still, the facilities for legitimate vagrancy have increased, especially in connection with the Anglo-Saxon race. Emigration is easy to the remotest wilds of Australia, America, New Zealand, or Africa. Our commercial and political relations are so extensive, that the English tongue is as familiar almost throughout the vast empires of the East as in the West. Our scientific men traverse the globe from Arctic to Antarctic regions. The railway and the steamship have rendered distance no longer a consideration. Christian missions embrace all mankind; and England is the Antioch of this age. The bright cross of the Union-Jack is reflected in all waters; and the *reville* of the British soldier rolls through the glorious tropical dawn as well as through the misty northern morning.

Even our holiday vagrants do things on a larger scale. Mr. Frizzlewig, Q.C., stumbles one summer's morning at Niagara Falls upon his intimate friend the Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department, and finds him forgetting, in the roar of the waters and a cigar, the questions of impertinent members with which he has been bored during the past session. Next year the barrister will turn up at Mont Blanc, and meets the Rev. Dr. Bellows,

whom he "sits under" when at home, inflating his lungs there also. The year after that, the Q.C., the Under-Secretary, and the Divine, will compare notes on the verandah at Shepherd's, in Cairo. Deer-stalking and grouse-shooting are very second-rate affairs now. Holiday vagrancy is common to all classes. The sentimental grocer, in the small country town, takes his wife for a week once a year to what he calls "the sea-side," but which means a group of horribly desolate, newly-built houses on a sand-bank at the mouth of some river; and there the sentimental grocer meets with a prosaic draper from the same neighbourhood, and recites, for the edification of the latter, in view of the muddy water, Byron's apostrophe—"Roll on, thou deep and dark blue ocean!"—as given by him with immense effect the winter before at the Rottenborough Penny Readings.

The benefits of such vagrancy are obvious, whether the interests of commerce, science, civilisation, and Christianity be regarded, or simply healthful change and recreation. England would not have been the nation she is had it not been for the roving spirit of her sons.

Vagrant and vagabond are traceable to the same root; and Milton uses the latter in the sense of the former—

By envious winds blown vagabond.

But although vagabonds are for the most part vagrants, vagrants are not always vagabonds.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

OUR RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

On Thursday, Lord RUSSELL laid on the table a communication from Mr. Adams, the Minister of the United States, containing the formal notice from the Federal Government of the termination of the reciprocity treaty between the United States and Canada. The notice, Mr. Adams states, will take effect on the expiration of one year from the date of its delivery. In referring to the notification, Lord RUSSELL said that with respect to some articles that entered the United States free of duty under the treaty, but which had recently been taxed by the American Government, it might wish for a new arrangement, and he had reason to hope that during the year that must elapse before the termination of the treaty, some agreement or convention might be arranged between the two Governments, both as to this treaty and the armed vessels on the Lakes. He felt assured he expressed the feeling of the House when he said he should deeply regret if anything disturbed the amicable relations between this country and America. For this reason he lamented that so many expressions had been used in this country tending to confirm the people of America in a belief that there existed here a feeling of hostility to them, and that her Majesty's Government had acted from the commencement of the war in an unfriendly manner. He then went at some length into the two points generally adduced in support of this statement,—the proclamation of the 13th of May, 1860, by which the Confederate States were declared belligerents, and the construction and escape of the Alabama. The proclamation, he contended, was a mere necessity, that could not be avoided or deferred. The state of affairs that had arisen in America rendered it indispensable to the protection of the interests of this country. As to the construction of the Alabama, the Government had done all it could, but were compelled to act by legal means only, and there was much delay and difficulty of obtaining such evidence as could be taken in a court of law. Throughout, her Majesty's Government had observed a perfect and complete neutrality. It would have been a most ignominious course to have plunged this country into a war with America, not for the honour of England, for that was not involved, but for the private profits of Messrs. Laird. He announced that a new Minister (Sir J. Bruce) was on the eve of departing for America to represent her Majesty at Washington instead of Lord Lyons (whose past services he warmly eulogised), who was not able to return to his post.

Their Lordships adjourned a few minutes after six.

On Friday, the Duke of MARLBOROUGH brought in a bill to enable incumbents of parishes to exchange property for any tithes to which they might be entitled.

The Earl of MALMESBURY called attention to the illegal detention of the late Mr. Docknall in the lunatic asylum at Sedgfield on an order improperly obtained by a magistrate, and moved for papers on the subject. Earl GRANVILLE said that the person in question was liberated before the Lunacy Commissioners could interfere, and nothing more could have been done, especially as the person had been twice before confined as a lunatic. The LORD CHANCELLOR intimated that an inquiry would be instituted in the matter.

Lord DENMAN presented a petition from certain ratepayers of the metropolis on the subject of sewage.

The Felony and Misdemeanour Evidence and Practice Bill was read a third time.

Their Lordships adjourned at twenty minutes past six.

On Monday, on the motion of the Duke of SOMER-

SET, the Colonial Naval Defence Bill was read a second time.

Some other bills were advanced a stage, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes to seven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

On Wednesday, the Small Benefices (Ireland) Act (1860) Amendment Bill was read the second time, after a brief explanation of its object by Sir H. CAIRNS.

The Married Women's Property (Ireland) Bill was likewise read the second time.

SUNDAY TRAVELLING ON IRISH RAILWAYS.

Sir C. O'LOUGHLIN, in moving the second reading of the Railway Travelling (Ireland) Bill (compelling the running of a limited number of Sunday trains), and the points in which they differed from those of the bill of last session, anticipating and replying to objections, including the broad objection to Sunday travelling.

Mr. BLAKE moved to defer the second reading for six months, objecting that this was an attempt at *ex post facto* legislation that would prejudice existing interests. This amendment was seconded by Mr. LEFROY, who founded his objections to the bill upon religious as well as financial grounds.

Colonel DICKSON supported the second reading, and complained of the manner in which the opposition had been got up to a measure that would, he said, be a great advantage to the community. Sir H. CAIRNS observed that the bill raised a question of great importance—that of interfering with the mode in which common carriers should carry on their trade. The principle of this bill would sanction further interference in the same direction, and he asked the House whether it was prepared to initiate legislation of this kind. Mr. ROXBURGH said the character of railway companies was a distinct and peculiar one. They came to the House for special powers, and the House had a right to make conditions, and was bound to take care of the public interests. They were not common carriers, but very uncommon ones. Mr. LONGFIELD considered that the House was competent to legislate for railways if the interests of the public required. The question was whether such a case of grievance to the public had been made out as to induce the House to interfere. He thought not, and should vote against the bill. Lord DUNKELIN said railway companies were bound to consult the convenience of the public, and the Board of Trade was empowered by the Bill to check unnecessary compulsion.

After further discussion, in which Major Hamilton, Captain Staurope, and Mr. H. Robertson took part, upon a division, the amendment was carried by 42 to 39; so the bill was lost.

In Committee of Ways and Means, the following resolution was agreed to:—"That, towards making good the supply granted to her Majesty, the sum of 15,000,000*l.* be granted out of the Consolidated Fund."

The House adjourned at a quarter to three o'clock.

UNIVERSITY TESTS AT OXFORD.

On Thursday, Lord R. CECIL gave notice that when the bill for removing the tests at Oxford came on for a second reading, he should move that it be read a second time that day six months.

THE NORTH AMERICAN CONFEDERATION.

In reply to Lord R. Cecil, Mr. CARDWELL said the Government approved of the scheme for the confederation of the British North American colonies, and they would be ready to take the necessary measures for carrying it into effect.

THE SAFFRON-HILL MURDER.

In reply to Mr. ROXBURGH, Sir G. GREY said he had seen no reason to inquire into the conduct of the police in the Pelizzioni case. Baron Martin was satisfied with the verdict on the trial of Pelizzioni, but recommended that his life should be spared. Justice Byles was not satisfied with the verdict in the case of Moggi, and Baron Martin, before whom all the papers had been laid, concurred with him. The papers were laid before the law officers of the Crown, and they reported that there was sufficient evidence to put Pelizzioni on his trial for stabbing. He had accordingly given instructions that, at the next Central Criminal Court, Pelizzioni should be put on his trial on the minor charge.

CANADIAN DEFENCE.

The House went into committee of supply on the army estimates.

The Marquis of HARTINGTON moved the vote of 811,400*l.* for building and repairing establishments at home and abroad. This included 50,000*l.* to be devoted to the defences of Quebec. He deprecated any discussion of the matter in reference to possible hostilities with America. The United States had now got large armies, with generals as able as any he knew. Our colonies wished to remain independent of the States, and were anxious to put their borders in a state of defence, and without the slightest expectation that the United States were going to attack them he did not see why they should not erect such works on the frontier as were necessary. He explained at length the works proposed to be erected, and said all depended upon our maintaining a naval superiority in the St. Lawrence. He described the defences of Quebec, and showed what it was proposed should be done. When the works at Quebec and Montreal were complete, 12,000 men would be required to garrison them in time of peace, but in case of war they would require for garrison and as a movable force at least 60,000. This country could without difficulty send out 20,000, and the Canadian Government were about raising 80,000 militia as a permanent measure. He contended that the plan proposed was the best for the defence

of the country. He dealt with the arguments against the measure, and in reference to the one that it would be better to leave Canada alone, and make ourselves felt in case of war in the weak parts of the United States, he asked where those weak points were to be found. He believed that the plan now proposed was the best.

Mr. BENTINCK did not believe the plan now proposed would be of any effect for the thorough protection of Canada, and he moved the omission of the 50,000*l.* for the defences of Quebec from the vote.

General FREL thought it would be most wise to act on the report of Colonel Jervois. He criticised the conduct of the Government in respect to America, and declined to give it his approval. He should, however, vote for the proposed sum. Mr. B. JOHNSTONE's only regret was that the vote was so small. Mr. ANSON maintained that the measure would be of no use for the defence of Canada. If that country wished to have a standing army, let her maintain one at her own cost, and England would assist her in maritime and other ways. Mr. ADDERLEY urged that if the English troops and stores were not to be withdrawn from Canada this measure was necessary for their security. He should therefore support the vote. Viscount BURY believed it was our duty to stand by Canada. He did not anticipate war with America, but it was well to be prepared, and the defences now proposed would be of great service. Mr. WATKIN thought it would have been better, before setting about the erection of fortifications on the Canadian frontier, for the Government to have addressed itself to the Washington Government, with a view to the prevention of the necessity of erecting such fortifications. It appeared to him, however, that her Majesty's Government were not disposed to undertake any negotiations of that kind, preferring to vote the money first and negotiate afterwards.

Mr. HALIBURTON did not believe the American people wished or intended to enter on a war with this country.

There was a time when the Canadians, like many persons in this country, were deluded into great sympathy with the Americans and their democratic institutions, but they had grown wiser as they had grown older—(Hear, hear)—and they now thought it better to have nothing to do with them. (Hear, hear.) Canada had done all she could for her protection. She relied on the aid of our fleet and our army, and we could not desert her without dishonour. (Hear.)

Mr. S. LEFEVRE objected to this vote and votes of a similar nature because it seemed to him that by agreeing to them the House would enter upon a new policy—namely, that of engaging with America in such a contest of fleets and armies as had cursed Europe so long.

Would it not be far better policy to wait until the present unfortunate war had ended, and see whether the American Government would not disband their armies and evince a great desire for peace? He said this in no spirit of sordid economy, but because he sincerely believed there was at present no question between us and America which might not be settled by amicable arrangements, or, if necessary, by arbitration. For many political reasons he believed it would be far better for Canada, as well as for ourselves, that these fortifications were not commenced. If war should arise with America, it would arise out of matters affecting us alone or Canada alone. In the former case, Canada ought to be in a position to say to us, "We repudiate your policy, it is no affair of ours"; and in the latter case, we ought to be free to use similar language to Canada. Suppose war had occurred between us and America in consequence of the haste with which we sent troops to Canada on the occasion of the Trent affair, he thought the Canadians ought to have been in a position to say, "This war is no affair of ours." When they looked to the question either between England and America or between Canada and America, they must come to the conclusion that Canada should be in a condition to occupy a neutral position in case anything occurred between England and America. He believed no difficulty could arise between this country and America that could not be settled by arbitration, and it would be a great crime on the part of this country to neglect any means that would prevent such a matter leading to an unfriendly termination. (Hear, hear.)

Lord R. MONTAGU supported the vote, as did Mr. C. FORTESCUE. Sir F. SMITH thought more money ought to have been asked for at once, and the works got on with as fast as possible.

Mr. LOWE denied that it would be possible to defend Canada effectually.

We ought, in my opinion, to tell Canada that we will defend her with all our strength; that we consider her interests bound up in ours, and that we will fight for her to the last, so long as she belongs to us; but that we see no chance of successfully defending her on her own ground. If she chooses British connection she must take it subject to this condition, that she will have to defend her own soil in case of invasion; that we will make diversions elsewhere, and defend her in what we think the most efficient way, and that, if our arms are crowned with success, she shall be the first object of our consideration in making peace. We should also represent to her that it is perfectly open to her to establish herself as an independent Republic—(Hear, hear)—and that if she thinks that will make her position safer and more tenable, we do not desire to drag her into any danger. It is our duty, too, to represent to her that, if, after well-weighed consideration, she thinks it more to her interest to join the great American Republic itself—(cries of "No, no")—it is the duty of Canada to deliberate for her own interests and her own happiness, and it is our duty to put before her the relation of things, not as seen through the illusion of dignity and glory and things of that sort, but as they really are; and to assure her that, whatever course she may take, she shall have in us a friend, a protector, and an ally up to the time of her departure. (Hear, hear.) But I cannot think it is the best attitude for those who, with me, think that we cannot defend Canada in Canada, to encourage her to believe that we

will resist an invasion which we cannot resist—to stir her up, relying on our support, to incur dangers from which we cannot deliver her. (Hear, hear.) It appears to me that there is mutual deception. We expect Canada to defend herself, and Canada expects us to defend her. (A laugh, and "Hear, hear.") That, I think, is likely to come to very little.

He should not oppose the vote, but wished it to be understood that he was not pledged to any policy which would maintain troops in Canada.

Mr. DISRAELI found fault with the manner in which the vote came before them, but should support the proposition of the Government. He replied to the arguments of Mr. Lowe, and contended that in case of war with America the power of defence in Canada would be a material part of a struggle which would also have to be waged on all oceans. He entered at length into the power of resistance of the Canadians, and concluded by strongly urging that we should do our best to maintain our connection with Canada.

Mr. CARDWELL briefly replied to the speech of Mr. Lowe, and urged that, now the Canadians were taking measures for their own defence, it was our duty to assist them.

Mr. BRIGHT should vote against the proposition. The House knew folly was being talked when it was said the frontier of Canada could be defended against the power of the United States. If any danger to Canada were to arise it would be in consequence of difficulties between the Government of Washington and the Cabinet in London, and he protested against Canada being called upon to bear the main proportion of the consequent expenditure.

If the Canadian finances are in the unfortunate position described—if the credit of Canada is not very great in the market of this country, and if you see what are the difficulties of the Canadians during a period of peace, consider what will be their difficulties if the doctrine of the Colonial Secretary be carried out, and that, whatever expense is necessary for the defence of Canada, while we bear a portion, the main part must be borne by Canada. We must then come to the inevitable conclusion that every Canadian will say, "We are close alongside of a great nation; our parent State is 3,000 miles away; there are litigious, and there are may be even warlike people in both nations, and they may occasion the calamity of a great war; we are a peaceable people, having no foreign politics, happily; we may be involved in war, and while the great cities of Great Britain are not touched by a single shell, nor one of its fields ravaged, not a city or a village in this Canada in which we live but will be liable to the ravages of war on the part of our powerful neighbour." Therefore the Canadians will say—unless they are unlike all other Englishmen, who appear to have more sense the further they go from their own country—(Laughter)—that it would be better for Canada to be disentangled from the politics of England, and to assume the position of an independent State. I suspect, from what has been stated by official gentlemen in the present Government, and in previous Governments, that there is no objection to the independence of Canada, whenever Canada may wish it. I have been glad to hear those statements, because I think they mark an extraordinary progress in sound opinions in this country. I recollect the noble lord at the head of the Foreign Office being very angry in this House at the idea of making a great empire less; but a great empire, territorially, may be lessened without its power and authority in the world being diminished. (Hear, hear.) I believe if Canada now, by a friendly separation from this country, became an independent State, choosing its own form of government—monarchical, if it liked a monarchy; or republican, if it preferred a republic—it would not be less friendly to England, and its tariff would not be more adverse to our manufactures than now. In the case of a war with America, Canada would then be a neutral country; and the population would be in a state of greater security.

In matters of this kind he observed that gentlemen on the Opposition side and on the Treasury bench shook hands. The former would say that they had no connection with the house over the way—(a laugh)—but the fact was, their connection was most intimate. (Hear, hear.)

Lord PALMERSTON thanked Mr. Bright for the compliment of saying that the Government had made a proposal so shaped as to elicit general support. This was not a Canadian question, it was not a local question—it was an Imperial question. He thought there was no danger of war with America.

Nothing that has recently passed indicates any hostile disposition on the part of the United States toward us; and, therefore, I do not base this motion on the ground that we expect war to take place between this country and America. But is it necessary that when you propose to put a country in a state of defence you should show that war with some powerful nation is imminent and likely soon to take place? Why, the whole practice of mankind is founded on an entirely different assumption. (Hear.) Every country which is able to do so fortifies its frontier if its neighbour is a powerful State which might if it thought fit attack it. But it is said that you can't defend Canada. Now, I utterly deny that proposition. (Cheers.) I think that is assuming a position which no man is entitled to assume. Does the example even of the war now going on tend to justify that conclusion? The territory of the Confederates is vast and extensive. Have they attempted to defend every portion of that territory? They have fortified certain important points, and those important points, although the rest of the country may have been overrun, have resisted attack—some of them even to this day, and others for three or four years of the contest. (Hear, hear.) Look at Richmond; is Richmond taken? (Hear, hear.) Has not Richmond been attacked for a great length of time? And what are its defences? Why, chiefly earthworks, with a force behind them; and, though that force is inferior in numbers to the force which threatens it, it has hitherto remained in Confederate hands. The mere occupation of territory by an army that traverses through it without reducing its fortresses is no conquest.

The hon. member for Birmingham thought the Canadians would find their best security, not in

fortifications or in British support, but in separating themselves from Great Britain. Now, that happened not to be the wish or inclination of the Canadians. (Cheers.) The Canadians were most anxious to maintain the connection with this country. It was therefore the duty and interest of this country to assist them in that object. It was a fallacy to suppose that danger could only arise from the quarrels of the mother country. There was the territorial ambition of military States, and Canada's danger in that respect would be greater if she were separated from this country than at present.

If these American provinces should desire to separate, we should not adopt the maxim that fell unconsciously from the hon. member for Birmingham, who maintained that the North was right in suppressing the rebellion of the South. We won't adopt his maxim, and think that we have a right to suppress the rebellion of the North American provinces. (A laugh.) We should take a different line, no doubt, and if these provinces felt themselves strong enough to stand upon their own ground, and if they should desire no longer to maintain their connection with us, we should say, "God speed you and give you the means to maintain yourselves as a nation!" That has not happened; but, on the contrary, they much dislike the notion of annexation to their neighbours, and cling to their connection with this country. And I say that it will be disgraceful to this country—(cheers)—it would lower us in the eyes of the world; it would weaken our power and leave consequences injurious to our position in the world, if, while they desire to maintain their connection with us, we did not do what we could to assist them in maintaining their position. (Hear, hear.)

They knew warlike operations must be limited to the summer months, and the Government thought that they could, by the fortifications now proposed—some to be made by the Canadians and some by this country—put Canada into such a state of defence that, with the exertions of her own population and assisted by the military force of this country, she would be able to defend herself from attack. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. BENTINCK, rather than go into the lobby with Mr. Bright, would withdraw his amendment.

A division was, however, insisted upon. Mr. Bentinck to avoid it walked out of the House. The vote for Quebec was then carried by 275 votes to 40. Progress was then reported.

AN IRISH BILL.

On the motion for the second reading of the Drainage and Improvement of Lands (Ireland) Provisional Orders Confirmation Bill, Colonel DUNNE opposed it on the ground that the bill was not in the hands of members. Mr. F. PEEL said that the object of the bill was simply to confirm certain provisional orders. On a division the second reading was carried by 123 to 72 votes. Mr. HENNESSY then moved that the clerk at the table perform the old custom of reading the bill a second time. (Loud cheers and counter-cheers.) There was here a pause of a minute or two in the proceedings, during which there were loud cries of "Read!" and "No, no!"

The SPEAKER then called on Mr. Hadfield, who had charge of

THE QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICES ABOLITION BILL.

Mr. HADFIELD accordingly moved the third reading of the bill. The hon. member was greeted with loud cries of "Order!" and immediately resumed his seat.

Colonel GREVILLE wished to know whether the Drainage Bill had been read a second time.

Mr. HENNESSY again called upon the clerk to read the bill a second time.

Sir G. GREY: I wish to ask you, Sir, whether the order for the Qualification for Offices Abolition Bill is not now before the House, and whether an hon. member is in order in discussing an Irish Drainage Bill. (Loud cries of "Oh!")

The SPEAKER: It is perfectly true that the bill was read a second time, and that it was read a second time in the ordinary manner. There is no doubt an old usage—quite obsolete—of the clerk reading the bill, but the bill has been read in the regular and usual manner according to the forms of the House.

Colonel DUNNE moved that the committee on the bill be fixed for that day six months.

Viscount PALMERSTON: Perhaps the Speaker will state to the House the question that is now before it?

The SPEAKER: I believe there is some misunderstanding in the House. The next order has been read by the clerk, though it may not have been heard by gentlemen who have not been exactly attending to what has been going on—(a laugh)—and that order is now before the House.

Colonel DUNNE moved the adjournment of the House.

Mr. LYGON rose to order. (Renewed confusion.) The hon. gentleman the member for King's County (Mr. Hennessy) had fairly raised a legitimate point of order, which he humbly submitted must first be disposed of. (Hear, hear.)

The SPEAKER: According to all our usages at the present day the bill has been read a second time.

Several hon. members here rose at once amid repeated cries for "Hadfield!" but the call to "Order, order!" in the sonorous tones of the Speaker soon replaced them in their seats. (Cries of "Adjourn!")

Colonel DUNNE, amid continued excitement, moved that the House now adjourn.

After a few words from Lord C. HAMILTON, which could scarcely be heard above the clamorous cries of "Order!" and "Adjourn!"

Mr. HUNT hoped that the scene which had taken place that evening would be a warning to them for the future, and prevent any member from bringing bills before the House for second reading until they had been printed. He hoped that the House would con-

sent to the adjournment, because he believed that in its present excited state members must be indisposed to the consideration of any important measure. (Loud cries of "Hear, hear," and "No, no.")

Mr. BRIGHT hoped that as a similar bill had passed the House five times, and had undergone a severe scrutiny at the hands of a select committee, he would therefore appeal to the hon. gentleman (Mr. Hunt) to allow the House to divide upon the bill. He could not, for his own part, perceive the slightest symptom of the excitement described by the hon. member; nor did he believe that that excitement would prevent the hon. member from finding his way into the lobby exactly opposite to the one in which he purposed going himself. (Laughter.) It was unnecessary for them to discuss the measure, as they were already fully acquainted with it, but he thought that the hon. gentleman the member for Sheffield ought not to be kept there until after midnight night after night.

Mr. NEWDEGATE expressed his strong objection to the bill.

The House then divided upon the motion for the adjournment. The numbers were—

For the adjournment	...	72
Against	...	141
Majority	...	—69

Mr. MOWBRAY, as a member of the committee by which this bill had been considered, begged leave to remind the hon. members for Sheffield and Birmingham of the circumstances connected with the bill.

Those hon. members should recollect the Church-rates Abolition Bill, which, after being passed by a majority, had ultimately been rejected, the time afforded for reflection by the action of the other House having induced a change of opinion. Therefore, it was not altogether safe to rely upon the fact that this bill had been adopted by the House on former occasions. The hon. member for Birmingham relied upon the fact of the bill having been referred to a select committee, with the assent of the right hon. gentleman the late member for North Wilts (Mr. S. Estcourt), whose loss they all regretted. It was true that that right hon. gentleman did recommend that course, but in doing so he did not foresee the course that would be adopted. The committee only sat for two hours, and he attended it, believing that the advocates of the measure were willing to listen to some fair terms of arrangement or compromise. The hon. member for Sheffield based his bill upon two grievances; first he complained that, under the Act of 1828, it was necessary that all the minor officers in the service of corporations should make the declaration, and he complained that in Manchester the Act was in very bad odour, as a great number of night-soil men and scavengers were brought under its operation. In order to meet that objection, he (Mr. Mowbray) proposed that such minor officers as the hon. member referred to should be relieved from the necessity of making the declaration, and that it should be required only from mayors, town councillors, town clerks, and recorders. The other complaint was that whereas all high officers of State were allowed six months before they were called upon to make the declaration, all municipal officers were required to make it immediately upon entering into office. To meet that objection, he proposed to place municipal officers upon the same footing as the high officers of State. Those propositions, however, did not meet the views of the advocates of this measure, whose real object was, he believed, not so much to get rid of practical grievance as to erase from the statute-book a declaration that the Church of England was intimately and permanently connected with the State. (Hear.) Some such compromise as he had proposed might have made the bill acceptable elsewhere, but his propositions were adopted, and the only change made by the committee was in respect of three words in the preamble. Under the circumstances, he should recommend his hon. friend not to divide, seeing that from the last division it appeared there was a majority prepared to support the bill without understanding its effect; and although if his hon. friend did divide he should feel bound to vote with him, yet he thought it would be better to allow the third reading to pass rather than to allow it to be supposed by the public from the majority that the House had changed its opinion as to the merits of this measure.

Mr. NEWDEGATE read the declaration which was proposed by the late Sir R. Peel, and accepted by Earl Russell as satisfactory to the Dissenters, and he contended that there was nothing in it to which Dissenters could conscientiously object. He urged that the repeal of a prohibition was equivalent to an authorisation of the thing previously forbidden, and he regarded it as treason for the State to injure, disturb, or weaken the Church, to which it was united, in the manner proposed by the present bill, which had most properly been already six times rejected by the House of Lords. The hon. gentleman concluded by moving that the bill be read that day six months.

The House then divided, when the numbers were—

Ayes	...	130
Noes	...	56
Majority	...	—74

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

The House adjourned at two o'clock.

THE EASTER ADJOURNMENT.

On Friday, in answer to Mr. A. Mills, Lord PALMERSTON said it was probable that the adjournment for the Easter holidays would take place on the Friday before Good Friday.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS—PENSIONS.

On going into committee of supply, Mr. B. COCHRANE inquired whether the pensions assigned in Schedule B of the convention of 29th March, 1864, between her Majesty and the King of Greece, had been paid in accordance with that convention, and whether her Majesty's Government intended to take any steps for the security of the recipients of those pensions, by placing those British subjects who served her Majesty under the late Ionian constitution on the same footing as pensioners of the British Crown. Mr. LAYARD said that the pensions had

been paid, although not punctually, there having been some little delay. He had every reason to hope that they would be paid regularly. The subject was discussed for some little time, some members urging that the officials in question ought to be dealt with as British and not Ionian employes, and the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER denying that they accepted their posts with any such conditions as implied.

DIGEST OF PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS.

Mr. W. EWART moved that it is expedient that digests of Parliamentary papers and blue books be issued from time to time, and consolidated into one or more volumes at the close of each session, for the convenience of members and for the diffusion of information amongst the public at large. Mr. PEEL was of opinion that if the proposed plan were carried out well and promptly, there might be some convenience to members; but it would not be likely to save expense or prevent the printing of Parliamentary papers in *extenso*. On the whole, he did not encourage the scheme. After some discussion the motion was withdrawn.

STATE OF THE THAMES.

Mr. MALINS called attention to petitions of the General Commission of the Thames and Isis navigation and the Mayor and Corporation of Wallingford, which pointed out the gradual deterioration as a navigable river of the Thames. Mr. M. GIBSON said that it was admitted that the case was hopeless unless some change in management took place. The navigation of the river was important, but it ought to be maintained by its traffic, and if this were developed by getting rid of the claims of the old lock-holders, the tolls would be sufficient to maintain the works. He, on the part of the Government, would consent to an inquiry into the matter. Mr. HENLEY suggested that the inquiry should be by a commission, and not by a committee of the House. There was further conversational debate before the subject was ended.

THE INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.

Mr. AYTON inquired whether it was intended by the Government to ask the sanction of Parliament during this session for a guarantee of a sum of money required to complete the railway from Halifax to Quebec. Mr. CARDWELL said that engagements had been entered into by the Government on this point, conditional on certain terms to be fulfilled by the colonists, and if these terms were fulfilled, he should make a proposal on the subject; but probably not in this session.

ARMY ESTIMATES.

The House then went into Committee of Supply on the army estimates, commencing with vote 14, for works and buildings. After discussion, the vote was agreed to, as were—163,500*l.* for military education; 88,345*l.* for surveys; 107,700*l.* for miscellaneous services; 26,000*l.* rewards for military services; 74,200*l.* for pay of general officers; 455,000*l.* for pay of reduced and retired officers; 162,100*l.* for widows' pensions, &c.; 28,200*l.* for pensions and allowances to wounded officers.

The second reading of the County Voters Registration (Ireland) Bill was objected to, and on a division it was rejected against the Government by 32 to 30.

The other business was gone through, and the House adjourned at half-past one o'clock.

COLONIAL BISHOPS.

On Monday, in reply to Mr. Dunlop, Mr. CARDWELL said bishops in Canada were not appointed by letters patent, but by the Church in the colony, and derived their civil rights from the Colonial Legislature. Since the recent decision of the Privy Council had been given, the subject of the issuing of letters patent to the other colonies was under consideration, and until some conclusion in respect to the matter was arrived at, no further letters patent would be issued.

In reply to Mr. Dunlop, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that after the recent decision it was much easier to say what were not than what were the effects of letters patent creating episcopal sees in the colonies. He explained that he believed the decision meant that by these letters patent no legal dioceses were created, nor any legal identity between the episcopal churches thus created and the Church of England; that they did not introduce into the colonies any part of the English ecclesiastical law; and that they gave the bishops no power but that which they would possess under the voluntary principle. He had seen it stated that they did not even incorporate the bishops and their successors as a legal corporation.

UNION RATING.

Mr. VILLIERS moved the second reading of the Union Chargeability Bill, the object of which is to make the poor-rates on all parishes in a union uniform. The measure was in the direction of recent legislation. The approved scheme of the New Poor Law was to have a larger area than the parish as a basis for the management of the poor. The evils of the parochial system were manifold, and required amendment. At some length he sketched the course of legislation in reference to the law of settlement and union rating, and stated the result of all inquiry into the matter. That result was wholly in favour of extending the area of rating. He believed this bill would be a benefit to the poor, and put the parochial system into a more healthy state. It did not propose to reduce the rates, but to change a system which must be changed. He condemned a proposition which had been made by Sir R. Knightley in a circular sent to guardians of the poor, that 2,000,000*l.* should be voted out of the Consolidated Fund to relieve close parishes. He knew it was said that this measure was intended to benefit the towns at

the expense of the rural districts. He denied that. The object was to benefit the poor and change a bad system. He concluded by urging the House to discuss the bill as one of great importance.

Sir R. KNIGHTLEY moved that,—

Considering the little knowledge this House possesses as to the practical working of the Irremovable Poor Act of 1861, it is inexpedient, without further information, to legislate on the subject of union rating during the present session.

He opposed the bill because it mulcted the proprietors in thinly populated parishes for the benefit of distant parishes. What they heard about labourers walking a long way to their work was all twaddle. The money of the men was spent in the parish where they resided, and there they ought to be supported, should they become paupers. The bill would also injure the labourer himself, and he believed its effect would be to fill workhouses and gaols, to increase the poor-rates, and diminish the few remaining comforts of the people.

A very interesting debate followed, in which a large number of members, chiefly agricultural, took part.

The adjournment of the debate was moved and negatived, and the bill was read a second time by 203 votes to 131.

On the report of supply, Lord ELCHO alluded to debates in the Canadian Parliament, where it had been denied that 50,000*l.* was all the Home Government would vote for Canadian defences this year. A very sharp discussion took place, in the course of which Lord ELCHO gave notice that he should bring the matter forward on Tuesday, 14th of April.

Another discussion arose on the Mutiny Bill, originated by Lord HOTHAM, in reference to courts-martial. Eventually the bill passed through a committee.

The House adjourned at a quarter-past two o'clock.

Foreign and Colonial.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

Advices have been received from New York to March 18th.

SHERMAN'S MOVEMENTS.

There are at length authentic accounts of Sherman's advance. Grant reports the receipt of a letter from Sherman, dated Fayetteville, the 12th inst., wherein the latter states that the army was in good condition, and had met with no serious opposition. Hardee kept in his front at a respectful distance. At Columbia he had destroyed immense arsenals, railroad establishments, and forty-three cannon. At Cheraw he found much machinery, war material, and twenty-five cannon, and 3,600 barrels of powder, and at Fayetteville he found twenty guns and much other material. The bearer of the despatches says that on the 10th inst. Hampton with two brigades attacked the rear of Kilpatrick's headquarters, and captured all his staff. Kilpatrick, however, escaped, formed his men, and drove the enemy back with great loss, and recaptured nearly all he had lost. Hampton lost eighty-six men left dead upon the field. The Federal troops live entirely off the country. The Chickamauga was sunk across the channel of the Cape Fear River, forty miles above Wilmington. Boats had left to remove the obstruction, and open the river communication to Fayetteville. This place is about forty miles from Raleigh. Sherman had established a base at Wilmington, and was moving northward.

Bragg attacked Schofield's advance on March 8 before Kinston, and captured 1,500 prisoners. He was repulsed with heavy loss in repeated assaults. Next day he retreated across the river, and left Schofield in possession of the town. Bragg burned the bridge at Kinston, and is said to have destroyed the ram and navy department. He retreated to Goldsboro'. The Governor of North Carolina had announced that for a few months Lee's army must rely for subsistence upon Virginia and North Carolina alone.

SHERIDAN'S RAID.

The report of Sheridan's success against Early is confirmed. Custer's division attacked and defeated Early's forces near Waynesboro', capturing eighty-seven officers, Early's staff, 1,100 men, and seven cannon, 109 wagons, and also a train of artillery stores prepared for transportation. General Early escaped. The Federal loss was ten men. General Sheridan occupied Waynesboro', captured Charlottesville, disabled the Kanawha Canal, and torn up the Orange and Alexandria Railroad to within thirteen miles of Lynchburg, destroying every lock and in many places even the banks of the canal. Sheridan advanced to the fortifications of Lynchburg, but found them too strong for attack. In his despatch he says:—

The weather has been very bad indeed, raining hard every day, with the exception of four days, since we started. My wagons have, from the state of the roads, detained me. Up to this time we have captured fourteen pieces of artillery—eleven at Waynesboro' and three at Charlottesville.

Much alarm has been caused at Richmond by the report that Sheridan had destroyed the Beaver Mill aqueduct, on the James River, twenty miles from Richmond, destroying the channel. It is stated that Sheridan was moving on White House.

CONFEDERATE NEWS.

The statement is reiterated that preparations are being made to evacuate Richmond. The *Richmond Dispatch* states that the Government employes have been called out by the Governor for temporary service.

Lee was said to be strongly fortifying his line on

the Roanoke River, to secure the possible retreat of Johnston to Roanoke. The *Danville Register* says that Lee intends never to surrender Richmond until it is impossible to hold it.

The Confederate Senate had passed the Negro Enlistment Bill by a majority of one, and it was supposed the House would ratify it.

The Confederates in North Carolina were said to be deserting by companies and going home. The people were not heeding the Governor's call, and, in many cases, were welcoming Sherman. A panic prevailed among the negroes since the announcement that they were to be conscripted into the Confederate army. The Conservative slaveowners were arming their slaves. The result of the conscription was that numbers of slaves were flocking to Sherman's army with the assistance of their masters, promising to return to work for wages as soon as safe.

President Davis had requested Congress to postpone the adjournment until the 14th inst., as he expected to send a communication requiring deliberation and action.

There were untrustworthy accounts at New York of peace commissioners from Richmond.

MISCELLANEOUS.

President Lincoln had directed that persons engaged in intercourse and trade with the Confederates by sea, whether citizens or domiciled aliens, shall be arrested and held prisoners of war until the close of the war—subject, nevertheless, to prosecution for offences committed by them as spies, or otherwise against the laws. Non-resident foreigners found now or hereafter in the United States, who had or should have been engaged in violating the blockade, were to leave the United States within twelve days from now or from their subsequent arrival, and not to return during the war. All persons disregarding the order were to be arrested, whether possessing passports or not, and be detained until the end of the war, unless previously discharged by the President.

It is denied that the Government will ship to Europe the cotton captured at Savannah.

President Lincoln had been indisposed, but was recovering.

The President has offered a pardon to all deserters returning to their posts within sixty days.

General Grant is reported to be awaiting fine weather for another attack on the South-side railroad. He is reported to have discovered coloured troops confronting his pickets, showing that the Confederates had adopted the policy of arming the slaves.

Mr. McCulloch, the Secretary of the Treasury, has announced that he will make an effort to resume early specie payments.

Mr. Scarlett, the British Envoy to Mexico, had arrived at the capital of that country, and delivered an autograph letter from her Majesty Queen Victoria recognising the Emperor Maximilian.

The following telegraphic despatch from the British chargé d'affaires at Washington was read by Mr. Cardwell in the House of Commons on Thursday night, amidst loud cheering:—"The Secretary of State (Mr. Seward) informs me that his Government intends to withdraw its notice for the abrogation of the treaty of 1817 (concerning gunboats on the lakes), and that the passport system will cease immediately."

DISINTEGRATION IN THE SOUTH.

The *Daily News* correspondent remarks that the disintegration of the Confederacy has actually begun, and is now progressing with daily increasing rapidity.

In other words, the people and the army are falling away from the Davisites, and plainly show that they will not follow them to "the last ditch"; that if slavery is to be abolished, and "State lines obliterated" they would prefer submitting at once and having it done by the Lincoln Government, to going on fighting and having it done by their own. The indications of the spread of this feeling of which one hears every day are so numerous that I cannot well enumerate them in detail. Amongst the most prominent is Governor Brown's message; the total absence of anything like popular resistance to the march of the Federal armies in Georgia and the Carolinas; the ready and even cheerful acquiescence of the inhabitants of the captured towns in their transfer once more to the old Government; the enormous number of absentees from the Confederate ranks—a fact which, alarming as it is, neither the newspapers nor the authorities attempt to conceal; and the sudden and astounding increase in the number of the deserters coming into the Federal lines since the evacuation of Charleston. Fourteen hundred have come over in Grant's front within the last ten days, including a large number of officers. I learn from private sources that they are a much better class of men than have heretofore deserted, and they all agree in ascribing their abandonment of their colours to their belief that "the Confederacy is gone up," that the loss of the seaports and proposal to arm "the niggers," are confessions of defeat, and that "they ain't going to be killed for Davis and Benjamin."

The Congress, the *Richmond Enquirer* says, has lost its courage and resolution. "The very men who were the first to secede are the first to surrender." There was a plan, it seems, to force Mr. Davis to resign, in order to make Mr. Hunter, one of the recent Peace Commissioners, President. The *Enquirer* "hopes and believes" it has miscarried. "Congress," according to the same authority, "is defunct." It has lost all its authority and also most of its members, who feel that the best thing they can do under present circumstances is to go home and look after the wreck of their estates. The only real power of the Confederacy is now the army before Richmond. It may indeed be said that the army is the Confederacy. The *Richmond Sentinel*, the especial organ of Mr. Davis, gives utterance to the most fanatical threats against the

wretched croakers, "titled or untitled," who are preaching submission.

ROME.

A grand banquet in honour of General M'Clellan was given at Rome on the 20th by the Russian representative in that city. All the foreign generals were invited, and toasts were proposed to the maintenance of friendly relations between Russia and the United States.

General Montebello has sent large reinforcements to operate against the brigands on the Roman frontier. The bands of late have been considerably increased in consequence of the peasants of the Papal States in many instances acting in concert with the brigands. Documents have been found in the possession of some of the brigands from which it appears that some understanding exists between the Court of the ex-King of Naples and the chiefs of the brigands.

PRUSSIA.

In Thursday's sitting of the Chamber of Deputies the debate on the general report of the committee on the Budget was resumed. The Minister of War made a speech, in which he declared that the Government regarded the approaching vote of the Chamber in reference to the report of the committee as of great importance. If the propositions of the committee were adopted, the Government would know that the Chamber aimed to extend its own power, and to circumscribe the rights of the Crown. The Minister further said:—

We have been advised to resign; we remain in office from a feeling of duty, not from ambition. We are told that the Chamber should be dissolved; but the Government has little prospect of achieving any result from such a course in the face of the present organisation of political parties. Until now the Government has held fast to the Constitution; it does so still, and desires to end the present disturbed state of things. For that purpose you must co-operate with the Government. Should you refuse, the question at issue will no longer be one of rights, but of existence. Make your choice."

CANADA.

The Canadian Parliament has adopted the Confederation scheme by 91 against 33 votes.

The Government have proposed a vote of 1,000,000 dol. for the permanent defence of the country, and 350,000 dol. for the expenses of the volunteers on the frontier.

The Finance Minister announces that the Government must maintain the police and militia on the frontier so long as the war lasts, and fulfil their obligations as good neighbours to the United States.

CENTRAL AMERICA.

Advices from Jamaica, dated the 7th inst., state that it is rumoured that the troops at Spanish Town had been ordered to Honduras, where difficulties were anticipated in consequence of Maximilian's alleged intention to annex Honduras.

Chili and Peru were quiet. Columbia had declared war against Ecuador.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The exodus from Germany to the United States has revived. The German Lloyd's steamer America left Southampton last week for New York with upwards of 500 passengers from Bremen.

M. Ernest Renan, on his return from Egypt and Syria, has arrived at Athens, and been received with great distinction at the Greek Court, to the indignation of Bishop Makanos, of Eubœa, who fulminates a furious letter in his choicest modern Attic Billingsgate against (we select the mildest of the Bishop's epithets) that "abominable" heathen.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.—The constitutional amendment, as I feared, has not as yet secured the requisite ratification from two-thirds of the States. Only 18 have as yet voted for it, while 25 are necessary, and three of those whose vote was counted on by the friends of the measure, New Jersey, Delaware, and Kentucky, have thrown it out. In New Jersey, however, it failed, owing to a "tie vote" in the Legislature, and it is not improbable that Republicans may secure a majority next year. But, in any event, I think it will be two or three years before the requisite number of States join in the ratification.—*Correspondent of the Daily News.*

THE POPE IN ENGLAND.—The *Débats* has an article upon the Roman question by M. John Lemoine, in which the writer refers to the rumoured intention of the Pope to quit Rome and take shelter in England, and to the annoyance which the mere announcement of this determination cannot fail to cause among certain French Catholics. M. Lemoine considers such annoyance unreasonable, and thinks that if Pius IX. were really to seek refuge in a foreign country, he could not make a better choice. "Catholics," he adds, "appear to us to understand but badly the sentiment which animates England if it be true that she has offered an eventual asylum to the Pope. England cannot make any use of the Pope, because she has no need of him. Her offer is nothing more than an act of homage rendered to her own institutions. There is not, in fact, a country in the world where the Catholic Church is freer than in Protestant England. It is much more free than the National Church itself, which is the servant of the State, and which miserably degrades its dependence. But to what does the Catholic Church owe this independence? She owes it to the political institutions, to the civil liberty of the country. When England gives an asylum to the fallen dynasties, it is not from sympathy with the misfortunes to which she has contributed. When she

receives Republican exiles it is not from affinity with doctrines which are completely foreign to her. In the same manner, if the Pope went to England, and if he were welcome there, as he doubtless would be, it would not be because the English people had returned to Catholicism or to Popery, but because they feel a sort of ostentatious pride in showing that their political liberties can shelter every religion, as well as every opinion. In the selection of a neutral country for the residence of the Pope, there would therefore be an advantage to the Pope himself, that of being free; to the Catholics of all parts of the world there would be the equal advantage of knowing him to be so."

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

WESTMINSTER.—In answer to a request made to him, Mr. John Stuart Mill has consented to allow his name to be put before the electors of Westminster as a candidate for their suffrages. He distinctly states that he would not undertake any local business nor give pledges as to his conduct in Parliament further than that he should always support the principles he has ever advocated. Lastly, he will incur no expense to secure his own election. At one of his meetings on Monday, the claims of Captain Grosvenor were voted down by a majority.

FINSBURY.—A meeting of electors was held at the Manor-rooms, Stoke Newington, on Monday evening, Mr. Alfred Tylor in the chair. Mr. Torrens having been invited to attend, expressed his opinion upon the leading questions of the day, and stated the course he would be prepared to adopt, if returned for the borough, with reference to foreign and domestic policy. His speech, which lasted upwards of an hour, was listened to throughout with marked attention; and at its conclusion several interrogatories were addressed to him on social and economic subjects. A vote of confidence was proposed by Mr. Smith, seconded by Dr. Fox, and carried amidst cheers. A numerous and influential committee has been formed in the district to promote the return of Mr. Torrens.

NOTTINGHAM.—We state with confidence that Mr. Morley has no intention of becoming a candidate for Nottingham. We hope and believe that at the next election he will be returned as one of the members for the City of London.—*Patriot.*

NORTH ESSEX.—Sir Thomas B. Western is now fairly in the field as a Liberal candidate. In a brief address to the electors which he has issued, he states that he will advocate the abolition of Church-rates and the entire repeal of the Malt-tax.

SOUTH LONDON WORKING CLASSES' INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

This exhibition, which opened on the 1st of last month, was brought to a successful close on Thursday afternoon, in the presence of many hundreds of persons. There was some disappointment at the unwelcome intelligence that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who had promised to pronounce a closing oration, had been prevented from coming by his official duties, but his place was well filled by Mr. Layard; and his address, with those of the other gentlemen who spoke on the occasion, seemed to meet with the complete approbation of the people. During the short period that the exhibition has been open it has been visited by no fewer than 123,414 persons, exclusive of those who were present on Thursday, being an average of 2,870 visitors each day. Although it has not been exclusively visited by the working-class, the exceptions, as compared with the total number, were so few that it has from the first proved the justice of its claim to be called a working-man's exhibition. As might have been expected, the daily returns of visitors show a much greater influx on Saturdays and Mondays than on other days, but by far the larger number of persons visited it in the evening. In the letter of apology which Mr. Gladstone sent to the committee, and also in the report, are some very pertinent allusions to the danger of too frequent exhibitions of this character in the same locality. That the exhibition owes very much of its success to the fact that it was eminently a movement on the part of the working men themselves, who not only framed the rules and formed the executive, but even elected the adjudicators, is very evident, and indeed it would not be too much to say that it owed its success entirely to the absence of the element of patronage, a point which was a good deal commented upon by some of the speakers at the ceremonial of Thursday. To Mr. G. M. Murphy the chief merit of its successful organisation is mainly due, and the Southwark Mission for the Elevation of the Working Classes could certainly have taken no better steps to advance their object than by granting, as they did, the use of their winter room for the purpose of the exhibition. It may be interesting to note that out of the 243 prizes awarded, sixty-eight are artistic, 107 mechanical, thirty-five general, and twenty-three for fabrics. These prizes will be distributed by Lord Palmerston on Saturday week, but the place and hour of distribution are not yet named.

The proceedings at the ceremonial on Thursday were very simple but effective. The Earl of Shaftesbury, who was accompanied by Mr. Layard, Sir C. W. Dilke, the Rev. Newman Hall, Messrs. Murphy and Frederick, the hon. secretaries, and several of the principal promoters of the exhibition, appeared on the platform shortly after two o'clock, and having taken the chair, the Rev. I. M. Soule gave out the words of the fine psalm, commencing "Before Jehovah's awful throne," which was sung

to the tune of the Old Hundredth by the whole body of the people, after which a portion of Scripture was read by the Rev. J. S. Workman, and the Rev. R. Robinson offered up a prayer.

Mr. G. M. MURPHY then read the report of the committee, which gave a full account of the progress and results of the exhibition.

Mr. LAYARD, in moving the adoption of the report, spoke of it as most creditable, and expressed the pleasure which he felt at seeing kindred exhibitions springing up in various parts of England.

Full justice, in his opinion, had not been done to the working men, who had been charged with want of taste, whereas such exhibitions as the present showed that when their attention was directed to the proper art channels the taste existed, and if it were cherished, as it would be by such exhibitions as this, it would reach a very high stage of development. Art was no small thing. It had the tendency of refining the manners, language, and taste of all who cultivated it; and those who travelled in Italy would readily acknowledge that the love of art which flourished there for three centuries had tended to refine the people, and those refining effects continued to influence them long after they fell into a deplorable political condition. He observed that almost all useful inventions had sprung from the people at large, and such exhibitions as the present gave to every man an opportunity for which many a man who eventually became eminent in art had long languished, viz., the opportunity of displaying his productions. With respect to these exhibitions, he hoped their promoters would take warning by the fate of mechanics' institutions, which had been smothered by patronage. He hated the word patronage, which, after all, meant only that people of rank would come and buy what was worth buying. He hoped, therefore, that those who promoted such exhibitions as this would eschew patronage. Let them get up such displays among themselves, and manage them themselves, and if they thought that a little additional grace might be conferred upon them by the presence of the aristocracy, they might be invited, as they had been on this occasion, simply to be present at the opening and closing ceremonies, but not to take any part in the management.

He then pointed out certain elementary errors in art, committed by some exhibitors who had sent drawings and paintings, and earnestly recommended them to frequent the Government schools of art.

Mr. BRODERIP having seconded the resolution, which was carried by acclamation,

The Archdeacon of SURREY addressed the meeting, and was followed by

Mr. S. MORLEY, who, on the part of the guarantors, expressed the pleasure it gave those gentlemen to assist in the promotion of a work so evidently tending to advance the taste and ameliorate the condition of the working classes, and he mentioned one or two cases which had been brought directly to his knowledge, in which ingenious invention had been brought by this exhibition to the notice of persons disposed to encourage the inventor. He was followed by

The Rev. NEWMAN HALL, who, in a short but forcible speech, pointed out how the Southwark Mission for the Elevation of the Working Classes operated in the promotion of that good work, and spoke in the highest terms of the very valuable efforts of Mr. Murphy in connection with the efforts of the mission.

Mr. MURPHY then read the following letter from Mr. Gladstone, which was listened to with marked attention:—

Dear Sir,—I find with sincere regret that the hour appointed for your meeting to-day, and the course of business at it, will preclude my attendance, on account of an appointment in Downing-street with gentlemen come from a distance. There is, however, nothing that I could have said on the occasion of closing the South London Exhibition that will not be better said by others. Still, in conveying my congratulations on the completion of the undertaking, I will venture to direct them specially towards that portion of the report which assumes the tone of warning. The attractive character of these exhibitions in a social and moral point of view, as well as the actual beauty and ingenuity of so many of the objects, may be likely to lead many to forget the strictness of the economical laws which are applicable to them; and I am very glad that the managers have emphatically pointed out, as among the conditions of their real success, first, that they shall be self-sustaining; secondly, that much of the control and responsibility, as well as the preparation of the articles, shall be in the hands of the working men themselves. A due regard to these conditions will prevent the too rapid multiplication under which they would certainly degenerate, and will tend to secure to our fellow-countrymen having the most direct interest in them, all the great benefits which they are calculated in so many ways to produce.

I remain, dear Sir, faithfully yours,

W. E. GLADSTONE.

The closing address was then given by the Earl of SHAFTESBURY in his character of President. He fully concurred in the remarks which had been made by Mr. Layard with respect to the depressing effects of what was known as patronage, saying that what the working people wanted was sympathy from those in the higher classes, and not patronage; and, after lavishly praising Mr. Murphy for the strenuous exertions he had made in connection with this most successful exhibition, he proceeded to endorse the opinion of Mr. Gladstone and the committee with reference to the expediency of holding these exhibitions at such considerable intervals as that they should always retain the flush of novelty. Incidentally he alluded to a bill in Parliament, which he said he would support, the object of which was to preserve the rights of the inventions of ingenious appliances exhibited on such occasions; but pointed out that the real use of these displays was not only to bring out native talent and genius, but to draw people away from the pothouse and the gin-palace, the casino, the low theatre, and the penny gaff. The

effect upon exhibitors themselves would be most salutary, and would not only induce them to turn their attention to the cultivation of the fine arts as a means of recreation, but would lead them to spend many hours in the calm enjoyment of domestic life, which were now worse than wasted. He concluded by announcing the close of the exhibition that evening; and, after thanks had been voted to the president and to Mr. Murphy, the proceedings were brought to a close by singing the National Anthem, after which the people were dismissed by a benediction. They then dispersed about the building, and remained for some time admiring the different objects which were displayed.

In the evening the exhibition was thrown open for the last time, and was visited by a dense crowd of people.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The King of the Belgians arrived at Windsor on Friday, on a visit to the Queen. The Prince of Wales met the venerable monarch at the Waterloo station.

On Wednesday, the Prince of Wales held a levée on behalf of her Majesty, and on Saturday, the Princess of Wales held the first drawing-room of the season on Saturday afternoon. There was a very numerous attendance of the aristocracy. The Princess Alice will represent the Queen on the next occasion.

The Owl informs us, that the Queen will go to Cobourg in August, to be present at the uncovering of the statue of the late Prince Consort there. From the same authority we learn that it is in the immediate contemplation of Government to recommend a considerable increase of the allowance made to the Prince of Wales.

Her Majesty has conferred the Order of the Garter on the Duke of Cleveland.

Sir Frederick Bruce, our new ambassador to the United States, sailed on Saturday in the China from Liverpool for New York.

It is probable Sir Rutherford Alcock, our newly-appointed Minister at Peking, will proceed to his post overland through Russia and Siberia.

The Dundee Advertiser announces the death of the widow of Sir Frederick Maitland, to whom Napoleon surrendered himself at Rochefort.

The second reading of Mr. Baines's Borough Franchise Bill stands fixed for Wednesday, May 3rd.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by Earl Spencer, was present in the House of Commons on Thursday evening during the debate which occurred upon the defences of Canada.

For the last few days Mr. Doulton, M.P. for Lambeth, has been labouring under illness, having been confined to his bed, and, though now stated to be somewhat better, he is not likely to be able to attend to his Parliamentary duties for some time. During the absence of the hon. member, the Right Hon. W. Cowper has been provisionally appointed to officiate as chairman of the committee of inquiry respecting the open spaces in and around the metropolis.

There is said to be no foundation for the rumour that the Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench is about to be raised to the peerage.

It is expected that the duty on fire insurance will be reduced to one shilling in the forthcoming budget.

It was announced on Friday evening by Lord Palmerston that he expected the House of Commons would rise for the Easter holidays on Friday, the 7th of April. The House is likely to reassemble on Monday, the 24th of April.

The Owl states that Parliament will positively be dissolved in July.

It is rumoured in sporting circles that a private racecourse is about to be laid out in Windsor-park under the special patronage of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

Sir H. Willoughby, M.P. for Evesham, was found dead in bed on Thursday morning.

Our readers will regret to hear that Mr. Cobden, M.P., is suffering from a very severe attack of bronchial asthma. The hon. gentleman had never entirely recovered from the effect of the exertions made at Rochdale. He felt sufficiently well, however, to proceed to London a few days ago with the view of taking part in the debate on Canadian defences, but a relapse ensued, and he has since been confined to his room.

Miscellaneous News.

EXAMINATION OF GIRLS.—While the Cambridge Senate passed the proposition to include an examination for girls in the Local Examination scheme by a majority of 56 to 51, the Hebdomadal Board at Oxford have rejected it by a majority of 10 to 8.

THE STORM.—A second winter reigns in Yorkshire. Since Tuesday night last boisterous weather with constant snow showers has prevailed, and the temperature during the night has ranged from 25 deg. to 28 deg. as the minimum. On Saturday the high moors and portions of the Wold country were deeply covered with snow, and all farm-work is entirely suspended. At Malton market on Saturday farmers complained heavily of the effects of the storm upon the young lambs, several of which have died of cold.

THE LOCK-OUT IN THE IRON TRADE.—At a conference between the ironmasters of the North and delegates from the unions of workmen, held at Darlington, arrangements were made for a resumption of work on Thursday next. An excellent feeling was

manifested throughout the conference, which extended over several hours. The arrangement agreed to is to be submitted to the Staffordshire ironmasters, with a view to bring about a simultaneous movement throughout the country. If this effort fail, the North of England masters are still pledged to open their works on Thursday.

ACCIDENTS.—A serious accident happened on Sunday at the Ludgate station of the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway. The roof of the station, which has been in the course of construction for some time, fell in without any warning. Fortunately no one was hurt. A good deal of damage was, however, done.—A most unfortunate accident happened on Sunday near Croydon. An old railway-bridge there was in process of destruction when suddenly an arch fell, and six men were buried under the ruins. Two were taken out dead, and the other four are so much injured that there is little hope of their recovery.

ALEXANDRA ORPHANAGE.—A special meeting of the governors and subscribers of this institution was held on Friday at the London Coffee-house, Ludgate-hill. The chair was taken by Mr. A. Wortley, and subsequently by Sir James Tyler. The chairman (Mr. Wortley) said they assembled on that occasion to hold the first election for the admission of twelve necessitous children to their new institution. He congratulated them on the inauguration of so benevolent an undertaking, and he hoped that by extensive patronage they would see the expectations of the founders fully realised. The money already received amounted to 1,200*l.*, and the interest manifested in their proceedings warranted them in anticipating that the funds would be largely increased. The election was then entered upon, and the required number, consisting of seven females and five males, were selected. A vote of thanks was passed to the chairman and the scrutineers, Messrs. Barlow, Tomkins, and Major, when the proceedings terminated. Mr. Daniel Sutton, of Kensington, has presented to the institution a donation of 100 guineas.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

Both the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge have just testified their opinions and approval of the services rendered to sacred literature by Prof. Tischendorf, by conferring upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

Messrs. Macmillan are preparing for publication, "Cawnore," by G. O. Trevelyan. The history is drawn from authentic, and, in many cases, from new sources. They have also in preparation "Letters from Egypt," by Lady Duff Gordon; "The Scenery of Scotland in connection with its Physical Geology," by Archibald Geikie; "A History of Agriculture and Prices in England, from 1259 to 1792," by Professor James E. Thorold Rogers.

MR. CARLYLE'S "FREDERICK THE GREAT."—The concluding volumes of the "History of Frederick the Great," by Mr. Thomas Carlyle, were issued last week. The work closes with the following paragraph:—

I define him to myself as hitherto the Last of the Kings; when the Next will be, is a very long question. But it seems to me as if Nations, probably all Nations, by and by, in their despair, blinded, swallowed like Jonah, in such a whale's belly of things brutish, waste, abominable (for is not Anarchy, as the Rule of what is Base over what is Nobler, the one life's misery worth complaining of, and, in fact, the abomination of abominations, springing from and producing all others whatsoever?) as if the Nations universally, and England too if it hold on, may more and more bethink themselves of such a Man and his Function and Performance, with feelings far other than are possible at present. Meanwhile, all I had to say of him is finished; that too, it seems, a bit of work appointed to be done. Adieu, good readers; bad also, adieu.

THE HISTORY OF CESAR.—The second volume of the "Histoire de Jules César" is almost ready for publication, the last sheets being now in the printer's office. Copies will be at once sent to the different translators in foreign countries, and the different editions will appear simultaneously about the 1st of June. It is more than probable that the short Life of Caesar which the first Emperor is known to have written whilst confined at St. Helena will be given to the world in the form of a German edition, before the second volume of his nephew's work sees the light. The work from the pen of Napoleon I. will be published at Augsburg.—*London Review.*

"The Impending Woes of Europe" is the title of a new brochure, issued by Mr. Stock, of Paternoster-row, which bids fair to draw as much attention as did the "Coming Struggle" some few years ago.

The Emperor has sent to this country five presentation copies of his "Life of Julius Caesar," with his autograph in each. We have reason to believe that of these copies one has been presented by him to her Majesty, another to Lord Palmerston, another to Lord Malmesbury, and another to Sir Henry Holland. Of the destination of the fifth we are not informed.—*Guardian.*

The statement that M. de Morny has left memoirs to be published only ten years hence suggests the curious remark that this year 1865 is the last of the term of twenty years fixed by Talleyrand for the publication of his reminiscences.—*Paris Letter.*

LET WELL ALONE.—Theodore Hook once observed a party of labourers sinking a well. "What are you about?" he inquired. "Boring for water, sir," was the answer. "Water's a bore at any time," responded Hook; "besides, you're quite wrong; remember the old proverb—'Let well alone.'"

Gleanings.

A country paper, announcing a new work on "The Monkeys of all Nations," by a printer's error, gives the title as "The Monkeys of all Nations."

There is now said to be "not a word of truth in the report" that the Prince of Wales had his pocket picked at the Chertsey Steeplechases.

A little boy fell from the carriage of an express train (the door bursting open) while at full speed between Twyford and Reading stations. Strange to say, he was not injured.

Stephen Burke, convicted of the murder of his wife at Preston, was hanged on Saturday at Lancaster.

It appears that thirty towns have, up to the present time, adopted the Public-house Closing Act, 1864.

A rush-basket maker, named Cooke, living at Birmingham, has committed suicide, by cutting his throat. The recent failure of Messrs. Attwood's bank, in which Cooke had deposited savings, is the alleged cause of this self-murder.

At Merionethshire assizes, last week, six of the grand jury were named Williams, and six Jones.

"If you wish to appear agreeable in society," says Talleyrand, "you must consent to be taught many things which you know already."

OVERDOING IT.—An old lady, who had insisted on her minister praying for rain, had her cabbages cut up by a hailstorm, and, on viewing the wreck, remarked that she "never knew him undertake anything without overdoing the matter."

The Princess of Wales might have been seen on Thursday taking an airing in a brougham in Hyde-park, with her baby—the future King of England—on her lap, without a nurse. The Princess seems a very pattern of mothers, and it is whispered that every evening the mother of this young gentleman may be seen in a flannel dress, in order that she may properly wash, and put on baby's night-clothes and see him safely in bed.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

"What a pity you are not a mirror," said somebody to a young lady. "Why so?" "Because you would be such a good looking-lass."

"What should you think, now," said a professor who was examining a class in Paley's Natural Theology, in relation to the laws of cause and effect, "what should you think if you picked up a watch in the street?" "I should think," answered the student, "I was a precious lucky fellow!"

Erskine was once retained for a Mr. Bolt, whose character was impugned by Mr. Mingy, the counsel on the other side. "Gentlemen," said Erskine, in reply, "the plaintiff's counsel has taken unwarrantable liberties with my client's good name, representing him as litigious and unjust. So far, however, from this being his character, he goes by the name of Bolt upright!"

PARIS GOSSIP.—The Hotel de Ville is gay with fêtes given on the occasion of the marriage of Viscount Pernetty to Mdle. Valentine Haussmann. The Princess Mathilde continues to collect the art world, and gives what are called *soirées dramatiques*, on which occasions the Empress, whose health continues satisfactory, is frequently present. The little world of foreigners give them more familiar dances; and, as usual, so many are invited that in these days of vast female toilette proportions the whole company is made uncomfortable. An English lady, a few evenings ago, gave a polite party, and permitted her friends to bring any amount of "acceptable people." There are those in Paris who take a pride in filling their rooms with people they know nothing about. On the present occasion, by twelve o'clock, the drawing-rooms were one locked, cloud-like mass of gauze and lace, where even ladies had only space enough to tear each other's dresses, for the fashion is to wear a spreading train which sweeps the floor with courtly majesty. What was to be done? More visitors arriving! A gentleman is sent into the *salons* imploring the ladies to sit nearer together—to make room, in fact. The confusion and crush increases as more square yards of millinery arrive in unruffled pride. The cloak-room is now full; there are yet more lovely creatures on the staircase: *crescendo! crescendo!*—still they come! A number of noblemen and gentlemen are up in corners, looking exquisitely uncomfortable. They are in a prison such as no respectable and philanthropic Government would provide for ordinary criminals. What an amount of pride and conceit and vanity is here crushingly humiliated! Oh, Vanity Fair! will such humility make people wiser? Will not the same company go through all this again and again? My lady friend will continue to ask more people than her apartments can hold, and more genteel society will dress itself within an inch of suffocation, and go. How everybody in polite society labours to make everybody uncomfortable and unhappy in our days. Hospitality is banished to make way for empty pride and well-dressed humbug. Whilst indulging in society gossip, I may mention the present rage for fortune-telling. High and noble ladies cannot wait for the turn of fortune's wheel to convince them that they are to be loved by those whom they most admire, become rich, and with their charms and exalted position invite the envy and hatred of other beautiful Christian women. No, every one must have their fortune told, and thus know weeks beforehand what pleasant events are sure to occur. So the anxious ones go to Madame de Rosa, who, in the presence of a mysterious skull and sand hourglass, and in a pleasant rainbow twilight, created by coloured glass, learn what the future contains, and for 20*fr.* are enabled to meet every description of weal and woe with resignation, and without a shock of surprise.—*Paris Letter.*

Literature.

"THE AUTHOR OF 'THE SINNER'S FRIEND.'"

There is not a little danger of our religious biography running to seed, if in truth it has not already done so. We know of no kind of reading that ought to be more generally attractive and useful, but unfortunately the very opposite is the case. The common remark is everywhere that biographies—and especially those of preachers, philanthropists, and men of that order—are a failure. The cause of this it is not difficult to discover. There appear to be many who cannot understand that a man may have been very good and very laborious, may even have possessed great abilities, have served his generation with great faithfulness, and have left behind him works which shed a fragrance round his memory, and yet his life's story may present little or nothing worthy of permanent record. One of the most beautiful lives ever spent in this world must have been that, the story of whose 365 years is told in the single verse, "And Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him." We have fallen on different times, when it seems to be thought that we fail in due honour to our friends unless we embalm their deeds in a portly octavo, and hand down to posterity the record of their most common-place acts and observations. Surely this is a mistake. There are men who tower so far above their fellows, whose lives have in them so much that is characteristic and suggestive, and who exercise so powerful an influence on their own times, that it is right that their biography should be written with a completeness which at times descends to minuteness, that in the case of inferior men would be wearisome, not to say impertinent. But these are comparatively few, and it is not every popular preacher or successful author or diligent Christian worker who belongs to the number. It is the lot of the greater part even of good men simply to do their service and fall on sleep, leaving no other memorial but the best of all—the works which follow them.

The autobiography before us affords an illustration of these remarks. There is so much in it from which Christian hearts may find encouragement, comfort, and guidance, the editor has been so manifestly influenced by a desire for usefulness, the spirit that pervades the diary is so beautifully and simply pious, and there are altogether so many things to make the book a power for good, that we feel extremely unwilling to enter upon the task of criticising it. What we have to say does certainly not arise from any failure to appreciate the character and labours of Mr. Vine Hall, or the earnest spirit of his son. But we must confess to a feeling of regret that Mr. Newman Hall should have thought it necessary to raise such a monument as this, even in honour of a father so deservedly venerated. The title itself seems so us to indicate the mistake into which he has been betrayed. That his father was the author of "The Sinner's Friend," is a good reason why he should feel devoutly thankful to God for the honour thus put upon his sire; that he, another labourer in the same field, should even cherish some allowable pride of ancestry; that numbers who have been benefited by this simple but practical and telling little book should cherish the name of its author in grateful recollection; but is certainly not in itself a reason why this large volume of autobiography should have been given to the world. The story of the life is very soon told. Mr. Vine Hall was in early life addicted to habits of intemperance, from which for a long time neither the affection of his wife, the entreaties of his friends, the responsibilities of a Christian profession, the remonstrances of his own conscience, nor the bitter sense of self-humiliation which followed his frequent falls, could rescue him. For years his life was marked by a continued alternation of sinning and repenting, each fresh relapse leaving him in a condition more hopeless, abject, and more miserable than before, until at length, when his case seemed utterly desperate, he was, in a very remarkable manner, and by the only means at all possible in such circumstances, delivered from that besetting sin which threatened to ruin him both for time and eternity. Henceforth his life, which was protracted to an extreme old age, was marked by singular consistency, self-dedication, and usefulness. He had not the qualities fitting him to shine as a public man, but as the father of a family and the deacon of a church, he was eminent for the simplicity of his piety, the conscientiousness of his spirit, and the abundance

of his labours. His own experience had led him to a deep appreciation of the fulness of the Gospel, and a yearning desire for the salvation of men, and at once prompted him to, and qualified him for, the production of a book which was marvellously blest to the accomplishment of the great desire of his heart. Very few men, even among those blessed with far higher mental abilities, and filling a more prominent place in the public eye, have been honoured to do so much good, and we do not wonder that the frequent tidings of the success which attended his little tract, filled his own heart with joy and thankfulness, and now constitute a subject of pleasing reflection to a son who has so worthily followed in his steps. Nor is it surprising that the labours of some of his children in the same holy cause should have been regarded by the old man with intense interest and sympathy. Altogether his life is a bright example of what Christianity can do in purifying and ennobling the nature, developing its highest qualities, and sanctifying its talents to the glory of God and the good of man.

All this we feel, as deeply as Mr. Newman Hall himself, and regard such a life as more to be envied than that of many men who in virtue of their shining gifts have achieved far higher personal distinction, but have effected far less real good. But is this a sufficient reason for the publication of such a work as that before us? A brief sketch of his career, bringing out its more salient points and enforcing its great practical lessons, would doubtless have been attended by beneficial results. But surely this was all that was demanded by the circumstances of the case, and in attempting more Mr. Newman Hall has run no small risk of defeating his own purpose. It is never to be forgotten, that such works as this will fall into the hands of men who have no sympathy with the principles or objects of the writer, and who will be eager enough to fasten upon little flaws and defects, to justify themselves in the attitude of antagonism or indifference to the Gospel which they assume. The publication of diaries which are supposed to contain the secret outpourings of a man's own soul, and to reveal his true self to a world in which are to be found only too many scoffers, is always to be done with great delicacy and care, and assuredly the introduction of mere trivialities, and still more of anything that savours of egotism, is to be cautiously eschewed. Mr. Vine Hall seems to have been a voluminous diarist, and left behind him fourteen closely written large quarto volumes. That most things contained in these diaries will be read with interest by his own family we can easily believe, but it is another thing when they come to be scrutinised by other and sometimes unfriendly eyes. Mr. Newman Hall has of course only given us a selection from these, and we gladly confess that many portions of the work are extremely beautiful and touching, and will be perused with great advantage and profit to the spiritual life of the reader. On the other hand, we are constrained to say that these are very many things, family allusions, expressions of parental feeling, references to the circulation of "The Sinner's Friend," and records of the most common-place events, which had much better have been omitted, and whose least fault is, that they unduly swell the size of the volume. One entire chapter, that on the "metallic tractors" and the long list of their effects in working cases of lameness, sprain, contracted limb, rheumatism, bruise, lock-jaw, tooth-ache, blindness, sciatica, burn, wasp-sting, &c., would more fitly have found its place in some book of domestic medicine. We might easily quote passages in considerable number, from different parts of the work, which are little more than mere entries in a log-book, describing the visits paid by Mr. Hall to particular localities, mentioning the friends who accompanied him, and recalling the pleasure they enjoyed. We feel ourselves puzzled to understand the kind of feeling which prompts the preservation of such records as these, records which throw no light on the character of the subject, which contain no valuable observation, and whose information cannot be of the slightest value to any save the parties immediately concerned. Perhaps to the editor they may have associations which give them a certain interest, but the biography is written to instruct and profit those who have no such feelings, and who are simply annoyed at having the little time they can spare for reading consumed by matter so insignificant. There are comparatively few of our religious biographies that would not be improved if the writers could remember that it is not every life whose petty details can have the interest that belongs to that of Johnson, nor is it given to every man to be a chronicler as successful and amusing as Boswell. But even more objectionable in our view than the points of which we have spoken is the continual introduction of references to "The Sinner's Friend." We can quite comprehend that the writer himself may have recorded the facts connected with this re-

markable publication—its translation into so many languages, and the numerous testimonies to its usefulness—without a single feeling of self-gratulation, but when these entries are thus brought together, and given to the public, the effect is not happy. They remind us of the biographies of certain preachers, which are continually telling of the large audiences they collected, and the remarkable effect produced, in a manner which, however intelligible to intimate friends, seems in the eyes of others to savour too much of egotism. Mr. Matthew Arnold tells us that a note of provinciality characterises our literature in general; and we fear that this censure applies to a very large portion of our religious biography. He says:—"To get rid of 'provinciality' is a certain stage of culture; a 'stage,' the positive result of which we must not 'make of too much importance, but which is, 'nevertheless, indispensable, for it brings us on 'to the platform where alone the best and 'highest intellectual work can be said to begin.'" This is as true of the spiritual as of the intellectual. It is difficult for men to realise the actual relation of the work in which their own feelings are engaged, and their lives employed, to the great movements of which after all they form only an insignificant part; but unless they can do this, they are sure to expose themselves to the attacks of those who occupy a different standpoint, and unjustly depreciate that which perhaps they as unduly exaggerate. Probably criticism of this sort will little affect the writers themselves, but they may at least be alive to the consideration that their failure in this respect may often serve to lessen the power of their books to attain those great spiritual ends which they themselves desire. The biographies which are the companions of the closet are generally brief and pithy. More ambitious works may find their place on the shelves of the library, but it is seldom indeed that they become the more sacred treasures of the heart.

HOME EDUCATION.*

How shall we educate our boys and girls? Shall we keep them at home, or send them to school? If we send them from us, shall it be to a private or a public school?—to a day-school or a boarding-school? Or, if we keep them at home, what course of instruction will be best fitted to promote full manly or womanly development? These are among the most interesting and important practical questions of the present day. With reference, indeed, to the less polished classes of society, there is not much room for hesitation. The last half-century has witnessed the establishment of such a number of good, well-appointed day-schools, from one end of the country to the other, that the mechanic or labourer has little more to do, than to spare a trifling weekly payment, to secure what perhaps approaches, as nearly as practicable, to the best teaching and culture which his circumstances permit. Not that we imagine our existing day-schools to be perfect—or ignore the petty persecution which small-minded, small-hearted ecclesiastical pedantry may still exercise in country places; but, as home education is out of the question in the families of the poor, they have no room to discuss one at least of the most important of the questions pressing for answer upon their wealthier neighbours.

To us, middle-class education is, we are free to say, the most interesting of all questions of an educational kind. As far as primary schools are concerned, we are at least on the right tack. There may be room for improvements in detail, but our principle—we may say it with some confidence—is right. Is it so with the vast class of schools ranking above these, and destined to meet the wants of those who desire for their children an education which—if not better in kind—shall yet be more complete, and bring with it more of true preliminary culture? We very much doubt it. In one of his chapters, the author of the volume before us—himself, by his own account, an experienced teacher—gives a sketch of what he characterises as the "driving school" of the present day (pp. 160—165). His sketch is over-drawn,—perhaps even to the extent of caricature; but we entirely agree with him in thinking that there are comparatively few schools, in which the work of education is carried out with anything like due adaptation of means to an end, or due appreciation of the marvellously delicate affinities, sensibilities, and motives, which the true educator knows to be the sources of his power, even if also among his greatest difficulties. We are quite aware, that in schools where classes are large, it is next to impossible to give the kind of individual study and attention we mean, but the evil is none the less an evil for that.

* The Author of "The Sinner's Friend." An Autobiography. Edited by NEWMAN HALL, LL.B. London: J. Nisbet and Co., 1865.

* The English Schoolroom; or, Thoughts on Private Tuition, Practical and Suggestive. By the Rev. ANTHONY F. THOMSON, B.A. London: Sampson Low, Son, and Marston.

It will be gathered from the title of the essay before us that the author is in favour of "Home Education." We infer from his preface, that he has himself at some period been engaged as a private tutor: but he writes like a man of free, candid spirit; and we entirely believe him when he says, that it is not without careful "weighing of the advantages" and disadvantages of the methods usually pursued in schools, against those adopted by the "private tutor, that he has decided in favour of the latter." A school, he urges, is no place for a really clever boy; for its routine will but shackle him; still less is it the place for the dull, the weakly in mind or body, the peculiar, the timid. It may do for the child of even, well-balanced, average constitution; and such may be sent there: but how many parents would adopt such a course on ground like these? We observe, however, that Mr. Thomson would send a really clever lad to one of our great public schools, from about fourteen: the preceding septennial period—betwixt the nursery and the public school—being in any wise spent at home.

But we must endeavour to give a somewhat more particular account of the method recommended by the author; premising that the present essay—which is but "the first instalment of a considerable work on education planned by him"—deals only with the period before referred to, from infancy to adolescence, during which the course for both sexes is to be identical. First, let the family be large or small, boys or girls, or both, Mr. Thomson would have both a tutor and a governess. It is important, he urges, that each child should be brought under the combined influences of the masculine and the feminine mind. It is scarcely necessary to say, that great stress is laid on the qualifications of the gentleman and the lady who are to exercise these conjoint functions. Further, the tutor is supposed to have the general control and responsibility in the schoolroom and out of it; the parent being—to use the author's own illustration—"the captain of the ship"; whose business is "to maintain discipline, to direct navigation, but not to work the craft." Besides these offices, the author would have the male and female pedagogues or "guardians":—if the family consist both of boys and girls, both. The business of the guardian will be, to attend the pupils in their walks and their games; to secure attention to those thousand-and-one little proprieties, which the tutor or governess may naturally enough find, not only irksome, but also to some extent inconsistent with their proper functions. Then we have full and minute directions, for the schoolroom,—with its double open stove in the middle, its dais at either end, its organ and piano, its desks, bookcases, closets, &c.—the playroom, the arcade, with its one side open to the fresh air—the cricket-ground,—and all the other appointments of an ideally perfect educational home for young people. Beyond this, we have a detailed system of school work, meals, and recreation, for the day and the week. In the scheme of studies we do not observe anything particularly fresh; except that we gladly note the emphasized remark—"it is on the study of English that most stress should be laid." Yet, to prevent misunderstanding, it is right to state, that the author is far from being one of those who underrate the study of Latin and Greek, whether as mental discipline or as culture intrinsically valuable. We entirely agree with him, further, in regarding Latin as quite as necessary for a girl's education as for a boy's. The special uses to be made of that language by the man in after life are unimportant, compared with the value of the study to one who would even thoroughly master his own mother tongue, and unlock the rarer treasures of its literature. With regard to out-of-school employment, our author, like all educators worthy of the name, lays much stress on physical education. His guardian—very probably and desirably, an old soldier—shall be able to teach all manly exercises; especially, fencing, the use of the gloves, riding, and swimming. The girls, too, are to be taught to swim as well as to ride. We ought to add that the whole of Mr. Thomson's essay is pervaded by a tone of true, manly—if not exactly "muscular"—Christianity. To adopt his system and leave the religion out, would be to deprive it of that which is to be its life and soul.

So far concerning the author's general scheme. It is obviously open to various objections, the first being that of expense. All these "tutors" and "governors," and these—we had almost said luxurious—school and play appointments, are within the reach of but few. Taking Mr. Thomson's estimates for the salaries of tutors and governors—independently of board and lodging—the mere educational staff for probably not more than three or four children—possibly only one—will require an annual outlay of from 300*l.* to 400*l.* This at once removes the ideal presented out of

the reach of "the middle-classes"; and though the author endeavours to meet this objection by saying, that he would have those who cannot attempt the whole of his plans, modify the same according to circumstances, yet it is a serious defect of his treatise that he has not shown how this may be done. Is the tutor to be dispensed with, or the governess, at any period of the seven years? If so, which?—and when? Or, if these are absolutely indispensable, should the guardian be foregone? On many such points as these, suggestions should at least have been given, in order to make the essay really useful to the large class of earnest, conscientious parents, who seek to know how best to unite limited means and true culture. Then, is not the very arrangement for a tutor and governess, living in the same house, teaching in the same schoolroom, "seated at either end, vis-à-vis," a little impractical? A lady friend of ours, to whose judgment we defer not a little, exclaimed at once, on coming to this part of the scheme—Why, they would infallibly either fall in love—or else fall out! And, seriously, the experiment strikes us a somewhat perilous one. Then further, supposing the case of a single boy—what is likely to be the effect upon the favoured hopeful, of all this sumptuous preparation for his physical, mental, and moral nutriment? Isn't there great reason to fear that—seeing all this is for his sake—he would imbibe conceits of his own importance, which would make him absolutely intolerable by the time he was fourteen? Tutor, governess, guardian, all for him;—is it reasonable to suppose the favoured child of fortune should remain unconscious that he is one of the "lords of creation"? We think not, and would rather not expose a lad of ours to such temptation—even if the scheme were in our power. For our own part—if we are to express an opinion—there seems much to be said for day-schools. That is the universal system in Germany; where the art of education is, in some respects, better understood than it is here. (The animadversions of our author on German schools, we presume are intended to refer to those German boarding-schools, to which English parents are sometimes deluded into sending their children.) There is no calculating the advantage which Scotland derives, and has derived, from such excellent institutions as the High School of Edinburgh; and happily, the number of good day-schools (or schools available for day-scholars) in this country, where a complete liberal education is given, is largely in the increase. A day-school is capable of being at once of small pecuniary expense, and equal, if not superior, to a boarding-school in educational advantages; while it does not involve the fearful risk which attends the removal of a mere child—all soft and flexible as wax, and perhaps more susceptible to evil influences than to good—away from the strong, saving influences of home, for a quarter or half a year at once. Nevertheless, though we differ in some respects from another, and regret that the scope of his essay prevents its being more generally useful, we are thankful to him for his contribution—conceived as it is throughout in the true spirit of the educator—to our knowledge of a subject so momentous.

BRIEF NOTICES.

Evenings in Arcadia. Edited by JOHN DENNIS. (London: Edward Moxon and Co.) This is a book on the rural poetry of England. It does not profess to be a methodical or exhaustive study of the subject, though there is more method about it than the introduction would lead us to expect. The author is thoroughly familiar with his theme, and has evidently been a careful and a loving reader of the poets, from Chaucer to Tennyson. He displays throughout a vigorous and an independent judgment. The critics of the poets, as well as the poets themselves, are subjected to honest but always fair review. Dr. Johnson comes in for a little rough handling, which, however, is, we think, well deserved. Those of our readers who have not much time to devote to the study of the Muses, may obtain, by the perusal of Mr. Dennis's book, a good knowledge of the rural element in English poetry, and all who are already acquainted with the subject will derive additional light and enjoyment from the fresh and intelligent criticisms which the volume contains. We cordially commend the book to lovers of poetry, as full of healthy and cheerful light reading. Its selections and discussions follow for the most part a chronological order, but the book cannot be opened anywhere without presenting some gem, new or old. We give one extract, vindicating Shakespeare's right to the title of a rural poet:—"The region through which Shakespeare moves is fresh with healthful breezes, and gladdened by bright sunshine and pleasant rural sounds, and happy homely faces. Often and often, when he does not mention the country, or mentions it incidentally, you feel that you are surrounded by its influences." . . . But Shakespeare has higher work in hand than any which falls to the share of the descriptive poet, or of the ordinary

"painter of landscapes, and so when, through an image caught from nature, he has embodied an immortal fancy, or a pregnant thought, he is content to leave the rest to the imagination."

The Life of John de Wycliffe; with a Sketch of the Ancient British Church. By the Author of "The Story of Martin Luther," &c. (J. F. Shaw and Co.) The writer of this book, having told previously the story of Martin Luther and of Zwingli, and in such a way as to call for words of cordial praise when those works were before us, has here attempted for our own Wycliffe what she achieved for them. We think her success not quite so great; which may chiefly be attributed to the difficulty of vivid representation where there is wanting the incident and anecdotes of personal life. But all that is known of Wycliffe may be learnt from these carefully-written pages; and no popular work of its extent, especially for the young, has the same excellence as a delineation of the dawn of the Reformation in England, and of the personal labours of Wycliffe. It is a merit that the author, when speaking of things doubtful—as the origin of the early British Church—is not led by private partiality to elect that one or the other of particular representations shall be true. By the way, the erratum noticed on the fly-leaf is amusing enough—for "father, mother, sister, wife, or friend," we are requested to read "home, or friend"; but it is evident that in such a string of persons it was wife and not "home" that was really written by the author.

House and Home. By H. B. STOWE. (S. Low, Son, and Co.) The name of "Christopher Crowfield" is on the title-page, but the publishers of course are right in placing Mrs. Stowe's name on the cover. It is a shilling volume, containing chatty papers on household affairs, full of pleasant sketching, anecdotes, information on domestic matters, and closing with thoughts on family religion that are most sensible and healthy. We suppose the contents have been contributed to some American periodical: and they will be welcomed in English homes, though they are nothing remarkable.

The Cottage Preacher. By the Rev. HENRY WATTS. (Elliot Stock.) We cannot see what special claim this little book has to exist at all. We should hope nobody preaches worse—not that there is want of plain sense and good feeling here, though it is not all true, but that there is nothing to deserve type more than in the addresses of most village preachers. The preface is very objectionable and foolish.

The Stepping-stone to Arithmetic. By ABRAHAM ARMAN. *The Key to the Same.* (Virtue, Brothers, and Co.) These are new volumes of the Educational Series. The instructions and exercises extend only to the fundamental rules:—the explanations being given clearly, and the examples abundant. It is thus a book for children, and intended to precede other works. It may also be used with advantage by working people cultivating to perfecting a knowledge of arithmetic. The Key contains the exercises worked in full.

Original Poems for Infant Minds. (Virtue, Brothers, and Co.) Unless we are much mistaken, one of our contemporaries has reviewed this volume under the belief that it is an entirely new supply of suitable verse to the little ones of our own day! But it is something far better. It is the verse that delighted us and thousands like us in the days when first we "petticoats cast off, for we were four years old": and contains "George and the Chimney-sweep," "Idle Dick and the Goat," "The Redbreast's Petition," "False Alarms," "Meddlesome Matty," "The Last Dying Speech and Confession of Poor Puss," and, in short, all the, emphatically and unapproachably, the "Original Poems" of fifty years ago, which have made famous those sisters whom a brother so worthily commemorated in a recent number of *Good Words*. This edition is beautifully printed on toned paper, and plentifully adorned with such pictures as children love.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, March 23.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued ..	£29,104,340	Government Debt	£11,915,109
		Other Securities ..	3,631,960
		Gold Coin & Bullion	14,454,349
	£29,104,340		£29,104,340

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000	Government Securities	£11,023,211
Reserve	3,913,584	Other Securities ..	21,264,411
Public Deposits ..	10,198,989	Notes	9,530,845
Other Deposits ..	13,551,794	Gold & Silver Coin	854,296
Seven Day and other Bills	455,396		
	£42,672,763		£42,672,763

March 23, 1865.

W. MILLER, Chief Cashier.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

BURRELL.—March 10, at 1, Paragon-buildings, Cheltenham, the wife of W. Burrell, Esq., of a daughter.
JOHNSTONE.—March 22, at the United Presbyterian Manse, Arbroath, the wife of the Rev. Robert Johnstone, LL.B., of a daughter.
MONTYNN.—March 21, at Braintree, the wife of the Rev. John Montynn, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

DAVENPORT—WADSWORTH.—March 13, at Trinity-road Chapel, Halifax, by the Rev. T. Pottenger, of Rawdon, Mr.

George Richard Davenport, to Mary Hannah, eldest daughter of Mr. Thos. Wadsworth, all of Halifax.

SHRAPNELL-PURNELL.—March 14, at the Baptist Chapel, Broughton-road, Melkham, by the Rev. W. H. Wood, Mr. W. F. Shrapnell, sen., of Hilberton, to Maria, widow of Mr. Jonas Purnell, of Trowbridge, Wilts.

WILSON-GLENNY.—March 16, at Mount-street Chapel, Blackburn, by the Rev. F. Skinner, D.D., Charles John Wilson, Esq., manufacturer, Hawick, to Mary Ann, only daughter of the late John Glenney, Esq., Lethenty, near Aberdeen. No cards.

DALTON-FORSHAW.—March 16, at Norwood Independent Chapel, West Derby-road, Liverpool, by the Rev. J. Kelly, Mr. William Dalton, of the firm of Dalton Brothers, cutlery manufacturers, Sheffield, to Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Henry Forshaw, builder, of Preston.

JONES-SINCLAIR.—March 17, at the Congregational Church, Heaton Mersey, by the Rev. S. Hooper, Mr. R. E. Jones, of Manchester, to Jean Stewart, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Jeremiah Sinclair, of Stromness, Orkney. No cards.

JENVIS-FISHER.—March 18, at St. Paul's Independent Chapel, Wigan, by the Rev. W. Roaf, Mr. William Jervis, to Miss Ellen Fisher, both of that town.

AUSTIN-WARD.—March 19, at the Congregational Church, Moseley-road, Birmingham, by the Rev. H. Goward, M.A., Ephraim Austin, to Louisa Ward, both of Birmingham. This being the first marriage solemnised in the new chapel, a handsome Bible was presented to the happy couple.

BAYLEY-MAXWELL.—March 21, at the Baptist Chapel, Kingston-on-Thames, by the Rev. Dr. Angus, the Rev. Henry Bayley, of King-ton, to Susan Mary, eldest daughter of William Maxwell, Esq., of Palace-road, Surbiton.

ROCHE-STEVENSON.—March 21, at Blackheath Congregational Church, by the Rev. Edward Steane, D.D., and the Rev. Joseph Hazley, Edward Roche, Esq., of Belmont-hill, Lee, late of Shanghai, to Emily Ada, youngest daughter of the late Leader Stevenson, Esq., of Vanbrugh-fields, Blackheath. No cards.

BINHOP-WALSH.—March 21, at Redland Park Congregational Church, Bristol, by the Rev. H. J. Roper, assisted by the Rev. J. R. Thomas, Stephen Bishop, Esq., of Guernsey, eldest son of A. Bishop, Esq., of Les Prés, Grouville, Jersey, to Sarah Ann, eldest daughter of D. H. Walsh, Esq., of Pembroke House, Pembroke-road, Clifton. No cards.

MERCER-RUSTON.—March 21, at the Independent Chapel, Malton, by the Rev. D. Senior, Mr. William Mercer, Leeds, late of Malton, to Mary, second daughter of Mr. John Ruston, Noton.

FIELDING-WALLACE.—March 21, at the Independent Chapel, Longsight, by the Rev. A. Thomson, M.A., Mr. Geo. Fielding, of Rosemond-place, Manchester, to Hannah, daughter of the late Mr. Wallace, of Kendal.

PRIESTMAN-TUKE.—March 22, at the Friends' Meeting-house, Bridge-street, Bradford, Alfred Priestman, Esq., to Mary Ann, third daughter of Daniel Tuke, Esq., all of Bradford.

BATEMAN-MURGATROYD.—March 22, at Halford Chapel, Bradford, by the Rev. J. Makepeace, Charles, eldest son of the late Mr. Robert Bateman, of Manchester, to Emma, ninth daughter of Mr. Charles Murgatroyd, dyer, Bradford.

WOODALL-WHITEMAN.—March 23, at Lee Chapel, by the Rev. R. H. Marten, Corbett Woodall, Esq., of Stockton-on-Tees, to Annie, eldest daughter of W. H. Whiteman, Esq., of Bennett Park, Blackheath. No cards.

DEATHS.

JONES.—March 18, at Braintree, aged thirty-six, Lucy Anna, sole remaining daughter of the late Rev. David Jones, first missionary to Madagascar.

GRIFFITH.—March 21, at Holyhead, aged fifty-nine, Alicia, wife of the Rev. William Griffith, Independent minister.

LEA.—March 21, at Kettering, of diphtheria, Catherine Maud, the beloved daughter of the Rev. W. K. Lea, aged three years.

LEWIS.—March 22, at 3, Prince's-buildings, Weston-super-Mare, the Rev. W. G. Lewis, late pastor of the Baptist church at Salem Chapel, Cheltenham, aged sixty-eight.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—This medicine has been constantly increasing in public estimation for years, and is now acknowledged to be the most wonderful remedy in the world. It acts directly on the system, removing all obstructions from the stomach, renovating the springs of life, and purifying the blood, eradicating liver complaints—that mainspring of so many diseases—indigestion, loss of appetite, pain in the side, and general debility. It is also a remedy on which the asthmatic may place the greatest dependence, and attain perfect restoration to health. The hypochondriac and dyspeptic should restore to these invigorating Pills, which are capable of converting the gloomy shadows of their life into beaming sunshine, and bringing back those naturally happy thoughts engendered by a good digestion.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, March 27.

There was not a large show of English wheat this morning, and the trade was firm. Most of the advices from the country markets report better prices last week, and factors were enabled to effect a fair clearance to-day at 1s. per qr. improvement upon the rates of last Monday. There is more inquiry for foreign wheat to-day, and in some instances at an advance of 1s. per qr., the sale being principally confined to fine Danzig and Russian sorts. Barley of all kinds sells on quite as good terms as last week. Beans and peas fully support the currency of last Monday. The arrivals of foreign oats since this day week have been moderate. Consequent upon the recent paucity of supplies, there has been a good sale for this article, and prices to-day are equal to the extreme rates of last Monday.

CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—	Per Qr.	Per Qr.
Essex and Kent, red, 1863	37 to 41	34 to 36
Ditto 1864	38 43	35 39
White, 1863	41 47	38 38
" 1864	42 48	35 38
Foreign red	39 41	36 37
" white	40 50	
BARLEY—		
English malting ..	27 33	
Chevalier	32 34	
Distilling	21 26	
Foreign	20 30	
MAIL—		
Pale	54 61	
Chevalier	58 62	
Brown	47 51	
BEANS—		
Ticks	32 38	
Harrow	37 40	
Small	40 43	
Egyptian	34 35	
PEAS—		
Grey	34 to 36	
Maple	36 39	
White	34 38	
Boilers	35 38	
Foreign, white ..	36 37	
RYE	36 27	
OATS—		
English feed	19 23	
" potatoe	23 27	
Scotch feed	17 22	
" potatoe	23 26	
Irish black	17 23	
" white	19 24	
Foreign feed	19 23	
FLOUR—		
Town made	37 40	
Country Marks ..	29 35	
Norfolk & Suffolk	27 28	

BREAD.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 6d to 7d; household ditto, 5d to 6d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET.

MONDAY, March 27.—The total imports of foreign stock into London, last week, amounted to 7,160 head. In the corresponding week in 1864, we received 4,965; in 1863, 3,687; in 1862, 2,034; in 1861, 2,035; in 1860, 2,002; and in 1859, 2,301 head. There was on offer here to-day a full average supply of beasts from Normandy, Portugal, Switzerland,

Germany, and Holland, in improved condition. The supply of foreign sheep was good; of calves and pigs only moderate. The arrivals of beasts fresh up from our own grazing districts, as well as from Scotland, were tolerably good, and mostly in prime condition. From Ireland the receipts were limited. Prime breeds were in steady request, at full prices. Otherwise, the beef trade was heavy, and the quotations had a drooping tendency. The best Scots and Devons sold at 5s. 2d. per 8 lbs. The arrivals from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire amounted to 2,100 Scots and crosses; from other parts of England, 700 various breeds; from Scotland, 380 Scots and crosses; and, from Ireland, 120 oxen and heifers. The show of sheep was moderate. Those in the wool were taken off steadily, at full prices. Prime shorn sheep ruled steady, but inferior breeds declined 2d. per 8 lbs. The general top price of Downs and half-breeds, in the wool, was 6s. 8d.; out of the wool, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. per 8 lbs. A few very prime half-bred tegs, in the wool, sold as high as 7s. per 8 lbs. Lambs were in fair supply, and slight request, at from 6s. to 7s. per 8 lbs. Calves were in moderate supply, at full quotations, viz., from 4s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. per 8 lbs. Pigs were quite as dear as last week, with a fair inquiry.

Per 8 lbs. to sink the Offal.

Inf. coarse beasts.	2 d. 4 0	Prime Southdown	6 6 to 6 8
Second quality ..	2 4 6	Lambs	6 0 7 0
Prime large oxen ..	4 8 4 10	Lge. coarse calves	4 6 5 2
Prime Scots, &c. ..	5 0 5 2	Prime small ..	5 4 5 8
Coarse inf. sheep ..	4 6 5 2	Large hogs ..	3 6 4 0
Second quality ..	5 4 5 10	Meatm. porkers ..	4 2 4 10
Pr. coarse woolled ..	6 0 6 4		

Suckling calves, 19s. to 22s.; and quarter-old store pigs, 21s. to 27s. each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, March 27.

These markets are moderately supplied with meat this morning from Scotland and the West of England, and there is a fair supply of town-killed meat on offer. The trade generally is steady, and prices rule firm.

Per 8 lbs. by the carcass.

Inferior beef ..	3 2 to 3 6	Small pork ..	4 6 to 5 0
Middling ditto ..	3 8 4 0	Inf. mutton ..	3 10 4 2
Prime large do. ..	4 2 4 4	Middling ditto ..	4 4 4 8
Do. small do. ..	4 6 4 8	Prime ditto ..	4 10 5 0
Large pork	3 4 4 4	Veal	4 0 5 0

PRODUCE MARKET, TUESDAY, March 28.

TEA.—Business in the private market has been very dull, and the public sales of China continue to proceed without animation at about previous rates.

SUGAR.—The market has remained very dull, and inferior descriptions of West India may be quoted 6d. per cwt. Good grocery qualities, however, sustain former rates. In the refined market there is a little change to report.

COFFEES.—There has been a moderate inquiry for colonial descriptions, which have fully supported previous rates. The stocks on hand, however, show a slight increase compared with those of the corresponding period of last year.

RICE.—A limited business has been done, but quotations generally are well maintained.

PROVISIONS, Monday, March 27.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 155 firkins butter, and 3,410 bales bacon, and from foreign ports, 13,210 casks of butter, and 3,292 bales and 261 boxes of bacon. The stock of Irish butter is nearly cleared off at irregular prices, according to quality. Foreign meat is good sale, at full prices, best Dutch declined to 12s. per cwt. The bacon market closed firm; a moderate business transacted, at prices the turn in favour of buyers.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, March 27.—These markets are moderately supplied with potatoes. Nearly all qualities are in steady request, and prices rule firm. The import into London last week amounted to 60 tons from Dieppe, 140 tons from Denmark, and 120 tons from Rouen.

SEEDS, Monday, March 27.—The continued cold weather delays the demand for seeds of all varieties; and up to the present date, the amount of business done for home consumption has been very small. For red seed there has been an improved demand for export, during the past week; and in some cases an advance of 1s. has been paid. White seed, with slow sale, is steady in value. Trefoils sell slowly, at full prices.

WOOL, Monday, March 27.—Since our last report very little business has been transacted in home-grown wool, both for sale in the manufacturing districts and for export. In prices, however, very little change has taken place. The export demand is improving.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c.—LONDON, Saturday, March 25.—A very moderate business is passing in flax, at late rates. Hemp moves off slowly, at 30l. to 32l. for clean Russian, and at previous quotations for East India produce. Jute is dull, and prices are rather lower. For coir goods the market is in slow request at late currencies.

OIL, Monday, March 27.—Lined oil is dull at 32s. to 32s. 3d. per cwt. on the spot. Rape, olive, coconut, and spern oils are firm, at late currency. French spirits of turpentine are selling at 65s. 6d. per cwt.

TALLOW, Monday, March 27.—The tallow trade is firm to-day, at about Saturday's quotations. P.Y.O. is quoted at 40s. 6d. per cwt. on the spot, and 42s. 3d. for October to December delivery. Rough fat 2s. 1d. per 8 lbs.

COALS, Monday, March 27.—Market firm at the rates of last day. Hetton's, 22; Haswell, 22s.; Lambton's, 21s. 3d.; Braddell's, 20s. 3d.; Hetton Lynn, 19s. 3d.; New Belmont, 19s.; Walker Primrose, 18s.; Holywell, 18s.; Hartley's, 15s.; Keelin Grange, 19s. 9d.—Fresh ships 64, left from last day, 4; total, 68; 49 at sea.

Advertisements.

AGENTS REQUIRED.

THE ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY



Is prepared to entertain applications for Agency Appointments from gentlemen having command of Fire and Life Business, either in London or the suburbs, or wherever the Company is not fully represented.

The Royal has always been conspicuous for its liberality and promptitude in the settlement of Claims.

Its Annual Income is now over £600,000

And its Funds in hand exceed £1,000,000

The Parliamentary Return of Insurance-duty paid to Government, again exhibits the Royal at the head of all the Offices in increase of business.

The Royal now grants Insurances on Stock and Implements in Trade, &c., at half the former charge for duty.

Transfers of Policies from other Companies received without charge for Policy, whatever the amount.

Address, JOHN B. JOHNSTON, Secretary, Royal Insurance Company, 29, Lombard-street.



NEW EDITION.—POST FREE.

GABRIEL'S PAMPHLET on the TEETH,

(ILLUSTRATED AND DESCRIPTIVE)

Explaining the only effectual mode of supplying Artificial Teeth without pain, to answer in every particular the purpose of natural masticators.

GABRIEL'S "Pamphlet on the Teeth" should be read by all who value health, and before consulting a Dentist.—Morning Herald.

These Teeth are supplied on the principle of Capillary Attraction and Suction, thus dispensing entirely with springs, and are supplied at moderate charges.

MESSRS. GABRIEL,

THE OLD-ESTABLISHED DENTISTS,

LONDON:

27, HARLEY-STREET, CAVENTISH-SQUARE, W.

CITY ESTABLISHMENT:

36, LUDGATE-HILL. 36.

(Four Doors from the Railway Bridge.)

134, DUKE-STREET, LIVERPOOL; and

65, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

Messrs. GABRIEL guarantee every case they undertake.

AMERICAN MINERAL TEETH, from Four to Seven and Ten to Fifteen Guineas per Set, best in Europe, warranted. Single Teeth and partial Sets at proportionate moderate charges.

PEACHEY'S PIANOFORTES FOR HIRE.

CARRIAGE FREE.

Option of Purchase, on Convenient Terms, at any Period.

PEACHEY'S

CITY OF LONDON MANUFACTORY, AND EXTENSIVE SHOW-ROOMS,

73 BISHOPSGATE-STREET WITHIN, LONDON, E.C. Opposite the Marine Society.

An extensive assortment of PIANOFORTES, WARRANTED, New and Second-hand. Every Description and Price.

HARMONIUMS FOR SALE OR HIRE.

*New Grand Pianofortes for HIRE, for Concerts, Lectures, &c.

THE ROYAL OSBORNE (PATENT) MIXTURE OF TEAS,

6lbs. Sent to any part of England carriage free.

Agents wanted in all Towns where there are none appointed FRANKS, SON and CO., 40, Queen-street, Cannon-street West.

HORNIMAN'S PURE TEA

It is CHOICE and STRONG, BECAUSE it consists of most valuable growths that are full of rich essential properties.

It is MODERATE in PRICE, BECAUSE it is supplied direct from the importers to the consumers by Agents.

It is WHOLESOME to use, BECAUSE the leaf is not faced with the usual powdered mineral colours.

These COMBINED ADVANTAGES have secured for this Tea a general preference. It is sold in sealed packets, with the price printed on each, and signed—

Horniman & Co.

MANUFACTURERS TO THE QUEEN AND PRINCE OF WALES.

FRY'S HOMOEOPATHIC ROCK ICELAND MOSS PEARL COCOA.

FRY'S SOLUBLE CHOCOLATE.

J. S. FRY and SONS, Bristol and London, are the only English Manufacturers of Cocoa who obtained the Prize Medal, 1862.

TAYLOR BROTHERS' GENUINE MUSTARD.

Dr. HASSALL, having subjected this mustard to a rigorous microscopical examination and chemical analysis, reports that it contains the three essential properties of good Mustard, viz.:

PURITY, PUNGENCY, AND DELICATE FLAVOUR.

See that each Package bears their Trade Mark the "Pride Oz," and Dr. Hassall's Report.

Sold by all Grocers, &c., throughout the kingdom.

TAYLOR BROTHERS Brick-lane, & Wentworth-street, London, N.E.

SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

This delicious Condiment, pronounced by Connoisseurs

"THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE,"

Is prepared solely by LEA and PERRINS.

The Public are respectfully cautioned against worthless imitations, and should see that LEA and PERRINS' Names are on Wrapper, Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

Sold Wholesale and for Export, by the Proprietors, Worcester; Messrs. CROSS and BLACKWELL; Messrs. Barclay and Sons, London, &c., &c., and by Grocers and Oilmen universally.

TONIC BITTERS.—WATERS' QUININE

WINE, the most palatable and wholesome Bitter in existence; an efficient Tonic, an unequalled stomachic, and a gentle stimulant. Sold by Grocers, Italian Warehousemen, Wine Merchants, Confectioners, and others, at 30s. a dozen, manufactured by WATERS and WILLIAMS, 2, Martin's-lane, Cannon-street, London. Wholesale Agents, E. Lewis and Co., Worcester.

FURNISH YOUR HOUSE WITH THE BEST ARTICLES

AT

DEANE'S.

DEANE'S—Celebrated Table Cutlery, every variety of style and finish.
DEANE'S—Electro-plated Spoons and Forks, best manufacture, strongly plated.
DEANE'S—Electro-plate Tea and Coffee Sets, Liqueur Stands, Cruets, Cake Baskets, &c.
DEANE'S—Dish Covers and Hot-water Dishes. Prices of Tin Dish Covers in sets, 18s., 30s., 40s., 63s., 78s.
DEANE'S—Papier Maché Tea Trays in sets, from 21s., new and elegant patterns constantly introduced.
DEANE'S—Bronzed Tea and Coffee Urns, with Loysell's and other patent improvements.
DEANE'S—Copper and Brass Goods, Kettles, Stew and Preserving Pans, Stockpots, &c.
DEANE'S—Moderator and Rock Oil Lamps, a large and handsome assortment.
DEANE'S—Gas Chandeliers, newly-designed patterns in Glass and Bronze—three-light glass from 63s.

DEANE'S—Domestic Baths for every purpose. Bath-rooms fitted complete.
DEANE'S—Fenders and Fire-irons, in all modern and approved patterns.
DEANE'S—Bedsteads in Iron and Brass, with Bedding of superior quality.
DEANE'S—Register Stoves, improved London-made Kitcheners, Ranges, &c.
DEANE'S—Cornices and Cornice-poles, a variety of patterns. French and English.
DEANE'S—Tin and Japan Goods, Iron Ware, and Culinary Utensils.
DEANE'S—Turnery, Brushes, Mats, &c., well made, strong, and serviceable.
DEANE'S—Horticultural Tools, Lawn Mowers, Garden Rollers, Wire-work, &c.
DEANE'S—Harness, Saddles, and Horse Clothing, manufactured on the premises, of the best material.

NEW ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE AND PRICED FURNISHING LIST GRATIS AND POST FREE.

Established A.D. 1700.

DEANE AND CO. (The Monument), LONDON BRIDGE.

LAUNDRY COMFORTS INCREASED.

The beneficial and emollient advantages of GLYCERINE, for softening the skin and preventing or curing cracked hands, are secured by Landresses or Servants when using Harper Twelvrees' popular Preparation of

GLYCERINE AND SOAP-POWDER.

a Penny Packet of which will make nearly a pound of strong Washing Soap. It greatly expedites the Family Wash, and is regularly used by Thousands of Families on account of its harmless, effective, and economical properties. Ask for "Harper Twelvrees' GLYCERINE for Washing." Sold by Grocers and Druggists.

Manufactory—Bromley-by-Bow, London, E.; and 81, Bishopsgate-street Within, E.C.

CONSUMPTION.—DR. CHURCHILL'S

Successful Treatment of Consumption, Diseases of the Chest, Chronic Coughs, General Debility, Loss of Appetite, &c., by Hypophosphites, prepared by H. H. Swann, of Paris.

Full Prospectuses, Testimonials, and Medicines, of DINNEFORD and Co., Chemists, 172, New Bond-street, W., Wholesale and Retail Agents.

DINNEFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA.

The medical profession for Thirty Years have approved of this pure solution of Magnesia as the best remedy for Gout and stomaclic disorders of every kind; and as a mild aperient it is especially adapted for ladies and children.

Prepared solely by DINNEFORD and Co., Chemists, &c., 172, New Bond-street, London, and sold throughout the world by all respectable Chemists.

CAUTION.—See that "Dinneford and Co." is on each bottle and red label over the cork.

STARCH MANUFACTURERS

TO H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH, Used in the Royal Laundry AND AWARDED THE PRIZE MEDAL, 1862.

ANOTHER CURE of a THIRTY-NINE

YEARS' ASTHMA by DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS.—"17, Church-lane, Hull. Sir,—I have suffered more than I can describe from the effects of an asthma, which has for years rendered my days irksome and my nights sleepless. I have had the ablest advice, but nothing has given me one-tenth part of the benefit which Dr. LOCOCK'S WAFERS have.—W. ERRINGTON, late Grenadier Guards." To singers and public speakers they are invaluable for the voice. They have a pleasant taste. Price 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. per box. Sold by all Chemists.

RUPTURES.

BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN PATENT LEVER TRUSS, requiring no steel spring round the body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and advantages:—1st. Facility of application; 2nd. Perfect freedom from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd. It may be worn with equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day; 4th. It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from observation.

"We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation; and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in thus recommending."—Church and State Gazette.

Recommended by the following eminent Surgeons:—William Ferguson, Esq., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in King's College, Surgeon to King's College Hospital, &c.; C. G. Guthrie, Esq., Surgeon to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital; W. Bowman, Esq., F.R.S., Assistant-Surgeon to King's College Hospital; T. Callaway, Esq., Senior Assistant-Surgeon to Guy's Hospital; W. Coulson, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the St. Mary's Hospital; T. Blizard Curling, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital; W. J. Fisher, Esq., Surgeon-in-Chief to the Metropolitan Police Force; Aston Key, Esq., Surgeon to Prince Albert; Robert Liston, Esq., F.R.S.; James Luke, Esq., Surgeon to the London Truss Society; Erasmus Wilson, Esq., F.R.S.; and many others.

A descriptive Circular may be had by post, and the Truss which cannot fail to fit) can be forwarded by post, on sending the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, to the Manufacturer.

Mr. WHITE, 228, PICCADILLY, LONDON.

Price of a Single Truss, 10s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s. 6d. Postage, 1s.

Price of a Double Truss, 21s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d. Postage 1s. 6d.

Price of an Umbilical Truss, 42s. and 52s. Postage 1s. 10d. Post-office Orders to be made payable to John White, Post Office, Piccadilly.

NEW PATENT

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c

The material of which these are made is recommended by the faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible, and the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support in all cases of WEAKNESS, and swelling of the LEGS, VARICOSE VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and is drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price 4s. 6d., 7s. 6d. 10s., to 16s. each. Postage 6d.

John White, Manufacturer, 228, Piccadilly, London.

COALS.—Best Sunderland, 26s.; Newcastle or Hartlepool, 25s.; best Silkestone, 23s.; Clay Cross, 23s. and 21s.; Coke, per chaldron, 18s.

S. HIBBERDINE, Sussex and Union Wharfs, Regent's park; Chief Offices: 169 and 266, Tottenham-court-road.

COALS.—Best Coals only.—GEO. J.

COCKERELL and Co.'s price is now 27s. per ton cash for the BEST SCREENED COALS, as supplied by them to her Majesty and H. R. H. the Prince of Wales—13, Cornhill, E.C.; Purfleet-wharf, Earl-street, Blackfriars, E.C.; Eaton-wharf, Grosvener-canal, Fimlico, S.W.; Sunderland-wharf, Peckham, S.E.; and Durham-wharf, Wandsworth, S.W.; and at Brighton.

COALS.—By SCREW STEAMERS and

RAILWAY.—LEA and CO.'S price for HETTON, HASWELL, or LAMBTON WALLSEND, the best House Coal direct from the Collieries by screw steamers, or the Great Northern Railway, is 26s. per ton; Hartlepool, 25s.; Silkestone, first-class, 23s.; second-class, 22s.; Clay Cross, 23s. and 21s.; Tanfield Moor, for Smiths, 19s.; Barnsley, 20s.; Hartley, 19s.; best small, 13s. Coke, 18s. per chaldron, Net cash. Delivered, thoroughly screened, to any part of London. All orders to LEA and COMPANY'S Offices, High-bury, N.; Kingsland, N.E.; Great Northern Railway Coal Department, King's-cross, N.; and 4 and 5 Wharves, Regent's-park Basin, N.W. No Travellers or Agents employed.

PEMARTIN'S SHERRIES.—Rail paid to

any station in England.—THOMAS NUNN and SONS strongly recommend the wines of the above eminent shippers. Good sound Dinner Wines, 20s. and 32s.; superior 38s. 42s. 48s. and 52s.; Amontillado, 52s. 58s. and 64s.; Old East Indian, 72s. and 84s.; Madeira direct, 60s. and 72s.; Old East Indian 95s.; Claret: sound Bordeaux, 18s.; superior, 24s.; St. Julien, 28s. and 32s.; St. Estephe, St. Emilion and Margaux, 36s. 40s., 44s., 50s.; Canteaux Margaux, 56s.; La Rose, La Tour, and Lafitte, 62s. to 120s.; Champagne (good), 42s.; very good, 48s.; superior, 54s., 60s., 66s., and 78s.—THOMAS NUNN and SONS, Wine, Spirit, and Liqueur Merchants, 21, Lamb's Conduit-street. Price lists on application. Established 1801.

TRADE



MARK.

BROWN AND POLSON'S

PATENT CORN FLOUR is much recommended FOR CHILDREN'S DIET.

RECIPE FOR SPONGE CAKE.—Half-pound of Corn Flour, quarter or half-pound of butter, and two tea-spoonsful of Baking Powder, to be very well mixed together. Take three eggs, and beat the yolks and whites separately for fifteen minutes; then add to them quarter-pound bruised white sugar; mix all together, flavour to taste, and beat for fifteen minutes; put it into a well-buttered tin, papered all round two inches deeper than the tin; bake in a quick oven or one hour.

HAIR DYE.—BATCHELOR'S INSTAN-

TANEOUS COLUMBIAN, the best in the world, in the New York original packets, 4s. 6d., 7s., and 14s. each. Sold by Hairdressers, and wholesale at R. Hoveuden and Sons, Wholesale Perfumers, 5, Great Marlborough-street, W.; and 93 and 95, City-road, E.C.

N.B.—If found to fail, the money will be returned for any unused portion.

HAIR DYE! HAIR DYE! HAIR DYE!

GILLINGWATER'S ATRAPILATORY is the best Hair Dye in England. Grey, red, or rusty hair dyed instantly to a beautiful and natural brown or black without the least injury to hair or skin, and the ill effects of bad dyes remedied. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers of repute, and by the Proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station in the kingdom, in cases, 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each. Beware of Counterfeits.

HAIR DESTROYER for removing super-

fluous hair on the face, neck, and arms. This neat disfigurement of female beauty is effectually removed by this article, which is easily applied, and certain in effect. In Boxes, with directions for use, 3s. 6d. each. Sent free to any railway station, and may be had of Perfumers and Chemists, and of the proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Beware of Counterfeits.

BALDNESS PREVENTED.—GILLING-

WATER'S QUININE POMADE prepared with cantharides restores the hair in all cases of sudden baldness, or bald patches where no visible signs of roots exist, and prevents the hair falling off. In bottles 3s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. each. May be had of all Chemists and Perfumers, and of the proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station. Beware of Counterfeits.

A SAFE and CERTAIN CURE for that

disfiguring, distressing, and ultimately dangerous disease, Thick Neck; and all Glandular Swellings. Send a stamped directed envelope to Mr. S. Drakeford, Desborough, Market-Harborough, and receive testimonials from ministers and others.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.

Patron, H.R.H. the Prince of WALES.

Professor Pepper's Optical Lecture includes the Indian Widow's Suttie; and the exhibition of the "Carte de Visite" of any visitor on the screen, by Chadburn's (of Liverpool) Lantern; also the Crystals from the Human Breath.—Baron Munchausen—Lectures by Mr. King and Mr. Stokes—All the other Entertainments as usual. Open from Twelve till Five and from Seven till Ten. Great Preparations for Easter.

Thirty-fourth Edition, price 6d. or 1s.,

A CURE for ALL! NEUROTONICS (the Art of Strengthening the Nerves). A New View of Health and Disease in Relation to the Nervous or Vital Power, the Influence of Mental Emotions upon the Body; with Illustrations of a New Mode of Treatment for Chronic Diseases, Nervousness, Debility, Low Spirits, Indigestion, &c. By D. NAPIER, M.D.

Through any respectable Bookseller, or sent free for Seven or Thirteen Stamps, from the Author, 14, Allen-road, Stoke Newington, London, N.

TO READERS and BOOKBUYERS.—THE

LITERARY GAZETTE: a Record of Literature, Monthly, Twopenny, will be found to contain a larger amount of information respecting new books than is to be found in any other work. To be had of all Booksellers and News-vendors, and at the Railway Bookstalls.

2d. in the 1s. DISCOUNT ALLOWED on

BOOKS and MAGAZINES purchased at 62, Paternoster-row, E.C.

PARCELS of 5l. value (at this rate) sent Carriage Free to any Railway Station in England.

Book Societies, Schools, and large buyers supplied on the most advantageous terms.

ANY BOOK sent Carriage Free on receipt of the published price.

Elliot Stock, 62, Paternoster-row, London, E.C

CRAMER and CO., LIMITED, Let on Hire

the following Pianofortes for Three Years, after which, and Without any Further Payment Whatever, the Instrument becomes the property of the Hirer:—

28 Guinea Pianetta, in Rosewood or Walnut	23 12s. 6d. per quarter
42 Guinea Drawing-room Model Cottage, Rosewood or Walnut ..	23 18s. 9d. per quarter.
60 Guinea Semi-Oblique, Rosewood or Walnut	25 5s. per quarter.

Other Instruments, such as Grands, Semi-Grands, &c., may also be hired on the same system.

Every Instrument is warranted of the very best manufacture, inferior Pianofortes being entirely excluded from the stock. Quarterly Payments are required.

HARMONIUMS ON THE SAME SYSTEM.

PIANOFORTE GALLERY (the Largest in Europe), 207 and 209, Regent-street, W.

PARTRIDGE & COZENS,

MANUFACTURING STATIONERS,

192, FLEET-STREET,

Corner of Chancery-lane.

Carriage paid to the Country on Orders exceeding 20s.

The LARGEST and most varied Stock in the Kingdom of Note, Letter, and Fcap. Papers, Envelopes, Account and MS. Books, Household Papers, &c.

PARTRIDGE and COZENS' celebrated GUINEA CASE OF STATIONERY forwarded free to any Railway Station in England, on receipt of Post-office Order.

NO CHARGE for Plain Stamping Crest, Arms, or Address on best qualities of Paper or Envelopes. Coloured Stamping (Relief) reduced to 1s. per 100. Polished Steel Crest Dies engraved for 5s. Business or Address Dies from 3s.

SERMON PAPER, plain, 4s. per ream; Ruled ditto, 4s. 6d. An immense variety in all sizes and qualities always in stock. Samples forwarded free.

SCHOOL STATIONERY supplied on the most liberal terms. GOOD COPY BOOKS, all rulings, superfine cream paper, 40 pages, 2s. per dozen.

Illustrated Price List of Inkstands, Despatch Boxes, Stationery Cabinets, Postage Scales, Writing Cases, &c., post free.

PARTRIDGE & COZENS,

Wholesale Manufacturing Stationers,

192, FLEET-STREET, E.C.

Established 1841.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

JOSEPH GILLOTT, METALLIC PEN-

MAKER to the QUEEN, begs to inform the Commercial World, Scholarly Institutions, and the Public generally, that, by a novel application of his unrivalled Machinery for making Steel Pens, he has introduced a NEW SERIES of his useful productions which, for EXCELLENCE of TEMPER, QUALITY of MATERIAL, and, above all, CHEAPNESS in PRICE, must ensure universal approbation, and defy competition.

Each Pen bears the impress of his name as a guarantee of quality; they are put up in boxes containing one gross each, with label outside, and the fac-simile of his signature.

At the request of numerous persons engaged in tuition, J. G. has introduced his WARRANTED SCHOOL and PUBLIC PENS, which are especially adapted to their use, being of different degrees of flexibility, and with fine, medium, and broad points, suitable for the various kinds of Writing taught in Schools.

Sold Retail by all Stationers and Booksellers. Merchants and Wholesale Dealers can be supplied at the Works, Graham-street, Birmingham; at 91, John-street, New York; and at 87, Gracechurch-street, London.

BEDSTEADS, BEDDING,

AND BED-ROOM FURNITURE.

An ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE, with prices of 1,000 articles of BEDROOM FURNITURE, sent (free by post) on application to FILMER and SONS, Upholsterers, 31, 32, and 34, Berners-street, London, W.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY

VERSUS COGNAC BRANDY

This celebrated old IRISH WHISKY rivals the finest French brandy. It is pure, mild, mellow, delicious, and very wholesome.

Sold in bottles, 3s. 8d. each, at the retail houses London; by the agents in the principal towns in England; or wholesale at 8, Great Windmill-street, London, W.

Observe the red seal, pink label, and cork, branded "Kinahan's LL Whisky."

ORIGINAL

MUDIE'S SELECT LIBRARY.

NEW AND CHOICE BOOKS.

All the Best Books of the Season are in Circulation or on sale at MUDIE'S SELECT LIBRARY.

Fresh Copies continue to be added as the demand increases, and an ample supply is provided of all the principal New Works as they appear.

First Class Subscription, for the Newest Books,
ONE GUINEA PER ANNUM.

Class B Subscription,
HALF-A-GUINEA PER ANNUM,
Commencing at any date.

Book Societies, Town and Village Libraries and Reading-Rooms, and Literary Institutions, supplied on liberal terms.

Prospectuses postage free on application.

MUDIE'S SELECT LIBRARY (LIMITED),
NEW OXFORD-STREET, LONDON.

NEW VOLUME ON THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES BY DR. VAUGHAN.

This day is published,

THE CHURCH OF THE FIRST DAYS:

Lectures on the Acts of the Apostles.

By C. J. VAUGHAN, D.D., Vicar of Doncaster.

Vol. II.

THE CHURCH OF THE GENTILES.

Fcap. 8vo, cloth, price 4s. 6d.

Vol. I. THE CHURCH OF JERUSALEM.

(Lately published).

Fcap. 8vo, cloth, price 4s. 6d.

New Editions published this day.

LECTURES ON THE REVELATION OF ST. JOHN.

By C. J. VAUGHAN, D.D., Vicar of Doncaster.

Second Edition, Two Volumes, crown 8vo, price 15s.

WORDS FROM THE GOSPELS.

Sermons preached in the Parish Church of Doncaster.

By C. J. VAUGHAN, D.D., Vicar of Doncaster.

Second Edition, Fcap. 8vo, price 4s. 6d.

WORKS BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

NOTES for LECTURES on CONFIRMATION. With suitable Prayers. Sixth Edition, 1s. 6d.

LECTURES on the EPISTLE to the PHILIPPIANS. Second Edition, 7s. 6d.

EPIPHANY, LENT, and EASTER. A Selection of Expository Sermons. Second Edition, crown 8vo, 10s. 6d.

THE BOOK and the LIFE: and other Sermons preached before the University of Cambridge. Second Edition, Fcap. 8vo, 4s. 6d.

MEMORIALS of HARROW SUNDAYS. A Selection of Sermons preached in Harrow School Chapel, with a View of the Chapel. Fourth Edition, crown 8vo, 10s. 6d.

ST. PAUL'S EPISTLES to the ROMANS. The Greek Text with English Notes. Second Edition, crown 8vo, red leaves, 5s.

LESSONS of LIFE and GODLINESS. A Selection of Sermons preached in the Parish Church of Doncaster. Third Edition, Fcap. 8vo, 4s. 6d.

THE EPISTLES of ST. PAUL. For English Readers. Part I., containing the First Epistle to the Thessalonians. 8vo, 1s. 6d. Each Epistle will be published separately.
Macmillan and Co., London and Cambridge.

Price 5s., Quarterly. Annual subscription, prepaid, 17s. Post free.

THE JOURNAL of SACRED LITERATURE and BIBLICAL RECORD. New Series, No. XIII., April, 1865.

CONTENTS:

1. Dorothea, the Goddess of Ascalon.—2. Transubstantiation. A Supplementary Answer to chapter ix. of Cardinal Wiseman's "Reply" to Bishop Turton.—3. Bishop Warburton's Unpublished Letters.—4. Metaphysical Schools amongst the Jews, down to the Times of Moses Maimonides. By Professor G. Mason.—5. The Metonic Cycle and Calippic Period. By the Rev. Frank Parker (continued).—6. The Departure of my Lady Mary from this World, Syriac Text, concluded with English Translation, by Dr. W. Wright.—7. The Codex Sinaiticus.—8. Cureton's Ancient Syriac Documents.—9. Verbal Inspiration Defended. By the Rev. W. R. Coxwell Rogers.—10. Correspondence.—11. Reviews and Notices of Books.
Williams and Norgate, 14, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, London; and 20, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh.

THE MUSICAL MONTHLY

DRAWING-ROOM MISCELLANY.

(April.) Price One Shilling.

Music—"For Lack of Gold," by Gounod (sung by Madlle. Titiens).

Tales, Serials, Charades, &c., &c.

Adams and Francis, 59, Fleet-street, E.C.

THE LONDON REVIEW CHURCH COMMISSION.

The LONDON REVIEW having sent out Special Commissioners to collect practical information as to the working and efficiency of the Church and other religious denominations throughout England and Wales, and to inquire into their respective influence and progress in the various districts, the publication of the REPORT will be commenced on SATURDAY, APRIL 8th, and continued weekly.

The LONDON REVIEW, price 4d., stamped, 5d. Annual Subscription, 14. 1s. Office, 11, Southampton-street, Strand.

NEW WEEKLY PENNY MAGAZINE.

No. I., on Saturday, March 25, Price One Penny.

THE DAY of REST. Order "THE DAY of REST." No. I. on March 25th. Price One Penny, weekly. Full prospectuses now ready.

London: Ward, Lock, and Tiler, 158, Fleet-street.

MR. EDWARD MIALI'S New Volume, entitled
"AN EDITOR OFF THE LINE; or, Wayside Musings and Reminiscences," will be Published on the 7th April. Price 5s.

ARTHUR MIALI, 18, BOUVERIE-STREET, FLEET-STREET, E.C.

Lately Published, price 16s.,

Memoirs of Joseph Sturge:

With a Portrait.

Containing an Account of his Labours in Connection with Public and Philanthropic Movements for nearly Forty years, and includes Letters from Lord Brougham, Thomas Clarkson, Sir T. F. Buxton, Daniel O'Connell, Mr. Cobden, Mr. Whittier, the American Poet, &c.

BY REV. HENRY RICHARD.

EXTRACTS FROM LITERARY NOTICES.

"One of the brightest examples in modern times of the 'blessed life' was the life of Joseph Sturge; and of the best pieces of biography in modern times is 'Memoirs of Joseph Sturge,' by Henry Richard."—Primitive Church Magazine.

"The Life of such a man as Joseph Sturge is like a breath of life from the eternal world, a ray that shoots across our path, bidding us step on in the hope of brighter hours."—The Homilist.

"This is the record of a life faithfully and courageously spent in the service of mankind."—Daily News.

"The book is hearty as a mountain breeze,—a fine tonic for the moral sense."—Liverpool Mercury.

"It is an exquisite piece of Christian biography."—Nonconformist.

London: S. W. Partridge, 9, Paternoster-row; A. W. Bennett, 5, Bishopsgate Without.

JUST PUBLISHED.

OUR SYMPATHISING HIGH PRIEST.

Meditations on the Daily Sorrows of the Saviour. By A. L. O. E. 16mo square. 1s. cloth boards; 1s. 6d. extra boards.

THE FERROL FAMILY; and Other Stories of Domestic Life, The Leisure Hour Library. 1s. in fancy cover; 2s. handsomely bound in cloth.

PRECIOUS TRUTHS in PLAIN WORDS. Small royal. 8d. limp; 1s. cloth boards.

THE CHINA CUP; or, Ellen's Trial. A Worcestershire Story. Engravings. Small Royal. 1s. cloth boards; 1s. 6d. extra boards, gilt edges.

ARAB CHILDREN. Large Type and Engravings. Super-royal 8vo. 6d. in fancy cover.

POOR and WISE. Super-royal 8vo. With Large Type and Engravings. 6d. in fancy cover.

THE TITLES, ATTRIBUTES, WORKS, and CLAIMS of the HOLY SPIRIT; according to the Scriptures. 64mo, printed in red and black. 6d. cloth; 1s. tuck.

NEW TRACTS.

Often Reproved. Large Type Series, per 100. . .	1 0
Hope for the Backslider do. . .	1 0
Worries do. . .	1 0
Of no Use do. . .	1 0
Habits do. . .	1 0
The Dreaded Footstep do. . .	1 0
The Contrast; or, One Missing do. . .	1 0
Not a Bit Afraid do. . .	1 0
The Two Conquerors do. . .	1 0
The Old French Soldier, No. 1128 do. . .	3 0
Serjeant William Majouram do. . .	6 0

BOOK TRACT SERIES.

In neat covers.

6s. per 100.

No. 2. Narrow but Pleasant.

No. 3. Saving Faith.

No. 4. Mothers' Prayers.

TWO-PAGE TRACTS.

6d. per 100.

No. 01. Justification.	No. 05. Repentance.
No. 02. Adoption.	No. 06. Peace.
No. 03. Sanctification.	No. 07. Hope.
No. 04. Faith.	No. 08. Prayer.

The Religious Tract Society, 58, Paternoster-row, and 164, Piccadilly; and sold by the Booksellers.

THE FREE CHURCHES of LONDON and CHRISTIAN WORK.

Under the above heading a series of papers are being published in the "Nonconformist," with a view to furnish illustrative examples of the Missionary Operations carried on among the poor by many of the Free Churches of the Metropolis.

The following have already appeared, or will shortly be published:—

Feb. 8. . . I. Introductory.	
Feb. 15. . . II. Surrey Chapel and its Institutions.	(Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B.)
Feb. 22. . . III. Ditto	Ditto
March 1. . . IV. Bloomsbury Chapel and its Institutions.	(Rev. W. Brock, D.D.)
March 8. . . V. St. Giles's: its Poor and its Missions.	
March 15. . . VI. Presbyterian Church, Regent-square.	(Rev. J. Hamilton, D.D.)
March 22. . . VII. Union Chapel, Islington.	(Rev. Henry Allon.)
March 29. . . VIII. Spitalfields and its Missions.	
April 5. . . IX. Metropolitan Tabernacle.	(Rev. C. H. Spurgeon.)
April 12. . . X. Craven Chapel.	(Rev. R. D. Wilson.)
April 19. . . XI. Claylands Chapel, Clapham-road.	(Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, B.A.)
	&c.

Price 6d., or stamped, 6d., may be had of any Newsagent, or of the Publisher,
Arthur Miall, 18, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street, E.C.

Cheap Edition, now ready, with Portrait, 5s., bound, LIFE of the Rev. EDWARD IRVING, including his Journal and Correspondence. By Mrs. OLIPHANT. Forming the New Volume of "Hurst and Blackett's Standard Library."

"A good book on a most interesting theme."—Times.

Also, now ready, in 8vo, with numerous Illustrations by F. W. Fairholt, F.S.A., 21s., elegantly bound,

HAUNTED LONDON.

By WALTER THORNHURST.

"'Haunted London' is a pleasant book."—Athenaeum.

Hurst and Blackett, 13, Great Marlborough-street.

HUMAN LIFE: ITS REAL OBJECT. A Tract for general distribution. Price 2s. 6d. per 100, or 4d. per dozen.

A. W. Bennett, 5, Bishopsgate-street Without, E.C.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE, for APRIL, 1865. No. DXCIV. Price 2s. 6d.

CONTENTS:—

Miss Marjoribanks.—Part III.
Cornelius O'Dowd upon Men and Women, and other Things in General.—Part XIV.

Changing House.—The "Rope Trick"—Rain—Rain—Much Rain.—A New Caper.—An Immoral Consideration.

Dress.
The Iliad, Translated by Lord Derby.

The Laws of Short Whist.

John Leech.

Etoniana, Ancient and Modern.—Part III.

Piccadilly; an Episode of Contemporaneous Autobiography.—Part II.

Earl Russell.

W. Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh and London.

THE BRITISH QUARTERLY REVIEW.

No. 82, for April, price 6s., will contain:—

1. The Irish Church.
2. Homer and his Translators.
3. The Doctrine of Atonement—its Early History.
4. Lessons from the Cotton Famine.
5. Facts from Savage Life.
6. History of the French Bible.
7. Economy of Capital and Foreign Trade.
8. The English Lakes.
9. History of Julius Caesar.
10. Epilogue on Affairs and Books.

London: Jackson, Walford, and Hodder, 27, Paternoster-row.

Parts 1 to 4, now ready,

To be completed in Twelve Shilling Parts, demy 8vo.

PARABLE, or DIVINE POESY.

Illustrations in Theology and Morals, Selected from the Great Divines, Systematically and Chronologically Arranged.

By R. A. BERTRAM.

A full Prospectus, with Specimen Pages, can be had from the Publisher, F. Pitman, 20, Paternoster-row, London, E.C.

Extra cloth, gilt edges, price 2s. free by post.

THE GOLDEN RULE; and other Stories for Children. By MARY C. HUME.

"This author knows well how to write little tales such as real children delight in reading."—Athenaeum.

London: F. Pitman, 20, Paternoster-row, E.C.

LIFE: its NATURE, VARIETIES, and PHENOMENA. By LEO H. GRINDON.

The Publisher begs to announce the issue of the Third Edition of the above popular Work, in Twelve Sixpenny Monthly Parts.

Parts 1 to 9, now ready.

The Work can be had complete, in extra cloth, price 6s. 6d., half morocco, 12s., morocco, 15s.

London: F. Pitman, 20, Paternoster-row, E.C.

Post free for Seven Stamps, Twelve Copies for 5s.

IS the BIBLE a DIVINE REVELATION? A Discussion.

London: F. Pitman, 20, Paternoster-row, E.C.

Cloth, price 2s. 6d.,

A MANUAL of BRITISH and FOREIGN PLANTS, consisting of the LATIN and ENGLISH Names of those likely to come before the Botanical Student. With Other Useful Information. By LEO H. GRINDON.

London: F. Pitman, 20, Paternoster-row, E.C.

Just ready, Fourth Edition, Twenty-seventh Thousand, enlarged to 238 pages, 1s. cloth; superior binding, 1s. 6d., post free.

THE STEPPING-STONE to HOMOEOPATHY and HEALTH.

By E. H. RUDDOCK, M.R.C.S.E., L.M.

In a great measure re-written, and much improved by additions, embodying the latest advances in Homoeopathic domestic practice. The diseases have a fuller treatment, and are more numerous than in any similar publication.

W. Butcher and Co., 60, Powis-street, Woolwich, S.E.

(Illustrated Prospectus of Medicine Chests, with a list of Homoeopathic Publications, post free on application.)

Published by ARTHUR MIALI, at No. 18, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street, London; and Printed by ROBERT KINGSTON BURT, Holborn-hill, London.—Wednesday, March 29, 1865.